

"Grassroots voices from every state and territory have crafted a set of rules which will keep our party strong at the local, state, and national level, and we honored the spirit of democracy by conducting our Rules Committee meeting in a completely open and transparent fashion," he said.

**Schedule:** The RNC had not yet released an official schedule of events for convention week in Cleveland as of midday Friday, just two days before the RNC is schedule to kickoff.

But Ohio leaders and others have already announced a slew of ancillary events timed to capitalize on the convention crowd.

The Ohio Republican Party will host daily 8 a.m. breakfasts featuring Treasurer Josh Mandel and U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton (Monday); U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson and Frank Luntz (Tuesday); U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi and House Speaker Paul Ryan (Wednesday); and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi (Thursday).

The ORP already announced a 3:30 p.m. Tuesday event at the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame to honor Gov. John Kasich.

A sampling of other events during the course of the week includes:

- Sunday - a "Taste of Little Italy" event featuring Attorney General Mike DeWine at 3 p.m. at Tony Brush Park
- Monday - a 3 p.m. campaign event in which Sen. Rob Portman, former Speaker Newt Gingrich and Sen. Joni Ernst will address Sen. Portman volunteers at the Tri-C Metropolitan Campus
- Tuesday, a 10:15 a.m. reception for media members with Sen. Rob Portman; and 11 a.m. welcome tea hosted by the Ohio Federation of Republican Women at the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square featuring U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.)

A partial list of convention speakers was officially released Thursday, although the time and dates of the speeches have yet to be announced by the RNC.

In contrast, the Democratic National Convention Committee announced Friday the headline speakers for the DNC in Philadelphia later this month. They include First Lady Michelle Obama and Sen. Bernie Sanders July 25, President Bill Clinton July 26, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden July 27, and Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton July 28.

A series of musical acts will perform each day of the RNC at Freedom Plaza, which will also include drinks and food. For a complete list, visit the RNC's website. An evening

concert, featuring a variety of "American Idol" and "The Voice" winners will take place at 11 p.m. Tuesday at Gray's Armory.

The Clinton campaign and the DNC, meanwhile, are organizing their own counter events in Cleveland with a slew of press conferences and conference calls aimed at undercutting the RNC. Former Gov. Ted Strickland and the Ohio Democratic Party will also ramp up their attacks on U.S. Sen. Rob Portman as they seek to link him to Mr. Trump.

Other groups have scheduled their own events to criticize Republicans. The Ohio AFL-CIO is set to "welcome" Republicans to the city during a 2 p.m. Sunday event featuring former Gov. Ted Strickland at the Laborers' Local 310 Hall.

ProgressOhio has created a calendar of counter events that includes a "Daily Show" convention sideshow, League of Women Voters voter registration drives, and daily nonviolence training for protestors.

**Bob Bennett:** The City of Cleveland granted a secondary street name to the intersection of Ontario Street and Huron Road for the duration of the convention. The intersection will be known as Bob Bennett Way in honor of former ORP chairman.

"More than any one person, Bob Bennett steadfastly sought to bring the Convention to Cleveland," Ohio Republican Party Chairman Matt Borges said. "We are sad that he is not here to see the world spotlight on Cleveland, but grateful to the Mayor's office for honoring him in this way so that we can acknowledge his contribution to this week."

**Tourism:** With the RNC expected to draw 50,000 people to Cleveland, TourismOhio is rolling out all the stops to showcase Ohio, according to a press release.

The group is launching a 360 degree "virtual reality experience" during the convention, to capitalize on visitors and showcase various Ohio hotspots.

The experience will be hosted in a 40-passenger bus located outside the Quicken Loans Arena, according to the release, and will "offer a personal Ohio adventure for participants with a wide range of interests." Those not at the event can take part online.

Some of the featured items include Cedar Point, Hocking Hills, parasailing over Lake Erie, and various Cleveland attractions.

### **Campus Culture Survey Results To Inform Continued Sexual Violence Prevention, Response Efforts**

Students largely believe that their colleges and universities would seriously address sexual assault reports and take corrective action against offenders, according to their responses on surveys disseminated by all of the state's public institutions.

The surveys were an integral piece of the Changing Campus Culture initiative, which the Department of Higher Education launched last fall in an effort to encourage best practices in preventing and responding to sexual violence on campuses. (Survey Results)

Chancellor John Carey urged schools to join the voluntary effort and they responded. All of Ohio's public universities and 80% of private institutions participated in the campus climate survey that asked students to give feedback on how they think sexual assault is being handled and whether they know how to file reports.

Michelle Johnston, the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College president who has been the face of the initiative, said she's encouraged by the swell of interest in improving sexual violence policies.

The feedback, she said, will be used to steer the other facets of the \$2-million initiative, which include developing comprehensive response policies, adopting survivor-centered responses, launching awareness campaigns and implementing comprehensive training programs.

"With 100% of our public colleges and universities completing a common survey of our students, we have a clearer picture of where we are, collectively and as unique institutions," she said in a statement. "Using this data, we will thoroughly analyze where we are now and will chart a course for where we want to be, in relation to positive and safe environments on our campuses."

Students who responded to the survey agreed, on average, that the university would take sexual assault reports seriously and would support those making the reports. The average respondent also said the university would take corrective action against offenders and would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation.

However, students largely disagreed or were neutral with a survey statement that sexual violence is not a problem on their campuses and responses were mixed on a question of understanding institution policies for addressing complaints.

Less than one-third of students reported they don't know the contact information to get on-campus support for sexual violence despite about 13% of them saying they knew women who had been assaulted on campus.

"As I have shared many times before, numbers don't lie, and in the case of sexual violence on our campuses in Ohio, the numbers tell a story that needs a better ending," Ms. Johnston said of why the initiative was launched in October.

In addition to the aggregate data compiled by ODHE, the agency said campuses also administered more comprehensive surveys that will inform policies specific to individual institutions. All public institutions and 88% of private colleges and universities completed those surveys.

Ohio is one of few states in the country that has collected such data, according to ODHE. Much of the work to complete the surveys was done with the help of grants that were funded with a portion of the \$2 million allocated to the initiative in the biennium budget (HB 64).

The grants are also to be used to support putting best practices in place. The overall budget funding has paid for, among other things, webinars and summits to keep institutions engaged in the initiative and collaborating with one another.

"It's exciting to see Ohio dedicating state resources to collect prevalence data, support survivors and prevent sexual violence on college campuses, and partnering with the coalition and rape crisis centers," said Monika Johnson Hostler, the president of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

"It is through this strategic, long-term investment and the development of partnerships between campuses and community-based programs that we will see long-term positive change for students."

### **Becker Defends Right-To-Work Bill For Public Sector, Acknowledges Its Passage Is A Longshot**

The sponsor of public sector right-to-work legislation defends introducing the controversial measure while acknowledging it is likely dead-on-arrival.

Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) said legislation (HB 583) that would remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization is good policy that will likely not be well-received in the General Assembly.

"It's something my constituents have been demanding for a long time," he said in an interview. "I think it's good for Ohio and hopefully it will be able to move forward."

But We Are Ohio, which was formed in opposition to similar legislation designed to curtail the collective bargaining power of public sector unions, slammed the proposal, saying that workers in state with similar laws make less money and are more prone to on-the-job injuries.

"We believe right-to-work is wrong for Ohio, for working people, for all of us," spokesman Dennis Willard said in an interview.

"There is no support from working people in this state for this extreme idea."

Asked about the likelihood of the bill becoming law, Rep. Becker said he has "no reason to be optimistic."

"I have no feedback one way or the other, but based on the public comments that the governor has made and based on my feelings of what's going on in the Senate or where they might be, I'm not optimistic," he said.

Gov. John Kasich has said repeatedly that right-to-work legislation is not on his agenda in the wake of the public rebuke over similar legislation (SB5, 129<sup>th</sup> General Assembly) that was struck down by the state's voters in a labor-backed referendum.

John Fourtney, spokesman for the Senate Majority Caucus, said the measure has yet to be vetted by members. However, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) has spoken favorably of eliminating a requirement for union shop employees to pay union dues (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 4, 2013), but has said the support is not there among his members. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 3, 2013)

Carolyn Best, spokeswoman for Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), also said the bill will be discussed further among caucus members in the fall.

The fight over Senate Bill 5 galvanized the labor movement, and Rep. Becker acknowledged that the introduction of similar legislation could provide good political fodder for Democrats in an election year.

"I could see that being a drawback. It just gives the Democrats another talking point and a fundraising letter to send out," he said.

However, he said his measure is different from Senate Bill 5 in that it does not address collective bargaining benefits.

"It is simply an opt-out for public sector employees," he said.

Democrats and labor groups have derided right-to-work legislation for allowing those who opt out of paying union dues to still receive the benefits from negotiated terms of contracts. But Rep. Becker said those who opt-out under his legislation would no longer be protected by unions.

"If they run into some kind of trouble with management, they will not be able to look to the union," he said, adding that it is up to management to decide how to deal with the wages and benefits of non-union employees.

Critics have also said that right-to-work legislation is designed to weaken unions both financially and politically. Rep. Becker, however, also downplayed that critique.

"I wouldn't expect a mass exodus from unions if this were to be signed into law," he said. "If there were a significant exit, it would tell me that there's a problem with the unions. If the only way they can maintain their union through a captive audience then they need to be looking in the mirror."

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper called the bill a "sneak attack on Ohio's working families for the lame duck session."

**Education Notes: ECOT Defends Decision To Withhold Log-In Data; Antioch Receives Accreditation; Lawmaker Urges Standards Feedback**

A spokesman for the state's largest online charter school is defending the school's refusal to hand over student log-in data requested by the Department of Education.

Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow is not breaking any laws by refusing the data that's at the center of a lawsuit alleging ODE will misuse that information to determine per-pupil funding, school spokesman Neil Clark said.

A Franklin County judge earlier this week denied ECOT's request for a temporary restraining order to stop ODE from moving forward with an audit until after the court rules how student attendance should be used to inform payment totals.

ODE on Monday moved forward with the attendance review, but an email from the agency's attorney to ECOT revealed that the school was refusing to turn over the log-in and log-out information for students.

The agency's attorney Douglas Cole requested access to the documents be immediately provided, but Mr. Clark said that won't be happening.

"We're saying we're not doing anything unless the court tells us to," he said in an interview.

ECOT is interpreting the judge's decision differently than ODE, he said. While it may have allowed the audit to move forward, there is no specification that the review can occur in a way that conflicts with a contract between the school and ODE.

The school's lawsuit argues that ODE's decision to not provide funding for students who weren't logging in at least five hours per day is out of line with an agreement that has been in place for previous audits. That contractual agreement states that the school must offer up to 920 hours of learning opportunities - not that students must partake, Mr. Clark said.

"It's just not about did you show up today, it's far more detailed than that; it's how did you get to that 920?" he said.

ODE, meanwhile, is contending that online schools are required by state law to make daily student participation records accessible, regardless of how that information is being used. Mr. Evans said in his email a statute specifying that mandate has been in place since February.

The e-school's governing board was expected to meet Friday - mostly in executive session - to discuss the lawsuit and next steps.

**Accreditation:** Antioch College this week announced it has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

The independent college had spent the last two years pursuing accreditation after reopening in 2011. Originally founded in 1850, it closed in 2008 amid financial troubles and leaders have since been focused on building the historic institution back up.

President Tom Manley said in a video posted to YouTube that the university can now focus its attention on continuing to build a financial foundation and recruit students.

"This great result comes from the hard work of our faculty, our staff, students, our alumni who have been so incredibly supportive and the leadership of our board of trustees," he said. "It is a ringing endorsement of the quality and strength of the education that Antioch college can now offer, and it is a vote of confidence in our ability to offer that education for years to come. "

The commission's decision is retroactive, meaning the recent graduates in the class of 2016 will receive diplomas from an accredited institution, Antioch reported.

**Standards Revisions:** Rep. Jack Cera is urging educators and the public to provide feedback on proposed revisions to English and math standards.

The Bellaire Democrat said his constituents have shared frustration with the current common core standards, known as Ohio's Learning Standards, and now is the time to recommend changes.

Through 5 p.m. Aug. 1, ODE is accepting public comments on the proposed revisions that were drafted in response to the work of a task force and an earlier public survey.

"I wanted to take the time to share this opportunity with the people of the 96th District because I have received many questions from teachers, parents and administrators about the education department's new revisions," he said. "This is a perfect opportunity for parents to get involved in the process and voice their questions, comments and concerns with those who create these standards directly."

**Court Briefs: Dems File Brief In 'Golden Week' Case; 1851 Center Seeks To Stop Eminent Domain For Pipeline; Judicial College Employee Honored**

The Ohio Democratic Party has thrown its weight behind an effort to ensure that unregistered voters have a small window prior to the presidential election to register and cast a ballot on the same day.

In a brief filed with U.S. Sixth District Court of Appeals, the party asks the court to uphold a lower court ruling that found the elimination of "Golden Week" to be a violation of the Voting Rights Act.

"Jon Husted and Mike DeWine continue to waste time and money in court, ignoring the Constitution and clear precedent while attempting to make it harder to vote," Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper said in a statement.

"In their appeal, Husted and DeWine blatantly disregard the fact that eliminating an additional week of early voting and same-day registration disproportionately impacted African-American voters. The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

In his ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Watson found that the elimination of Golden Week disproportionately impacted black voters in Ohio. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

In a separate decision, Judge Watson denied a request to stay the ruling for the November presidential election while the decision is appealed.

ODP is now accusing Secretary of State Jon Husted of failing to heed the ruling by not providing accurate information for voters about the start of early voting on his office's website.

"Jon Husted has a long history of blatantly ignoring court decisions that have rebuked his attacks on Ohioans' voting rights, and his refusal, once again, to provide accurate information about early voting is plainly designed to mislead Ohioans about their voting rights," Mr. Pepper said.

"If he won't relent and update the misleading information his office is providing, we will take action to ensure he follows the court order restoring 'Golden Week.' The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

Husted spokesman Josh Eck said the website won't be changed while the case is under appeal.

"The ruling was stayed for the upcoming August Special Election and is currently on appeal ahead of the November election. It would be irresponsible for the Secretary to begin advertising changes that may very well have to undergo further changes before the General Election, as they did in 2012," he said.

"Secretary Husted is committed to making sure all voters know the rules and can participate and we welcome others to join us in pursuing clarity over chaos."



**Eminent Domain:** The 1851 Center for Constitutional Law has asked the Wood County Common Pleas Court to dismiss more than a dozen eminent domain cases filed by a Texas pipeline company.

The group said in a court filing that Kinder Morgan's eminent domain action against 15 families in the Bowling Green area violates Ohio's constitution because the project for which it is seeking the land is not a "public necessity."

The land would be used for the "Utopia Pipeline," a private ethane pipeline running underground to a Canadian plastics factory.

"Imagine that a private sector lawyer desired to get to the Wood County Court of Common Pleas faster. Could he forcibly appropriate others' private land along the route, from his front door step to the court's parking lot to build a personal road, with no on-ramps or exits, and twenty foot walls on either side, just to represent one very wealthy client who anticipated routinely using his services?" the filing reads.

"If the answer is 'no,' then it must be here as well. And it is 'no,' because no such road would be a public use, even if the lawyer appealed to the public interest in 'justice' and 'market demand for lawyers.'"

Maurice Thompson, the group's executive director, said in a statement the proposed eminent domain action is "redistribution of wealth of the worst sort."

"The abuse along the Utopia Pipeline is a prime example of what can happen when legislators attempt to auction off Ohioans' property rights to the highest bidder," he said. "Ultimately, the Ohio Constitution prevents this abuse, and we will prevail in court. But statutes inviting this sort of behavior should be amended or repealed."

**Honor:** A long-time employee of the Ohio Judicial College has been nationally recognized for his work, the high court reported.

Kristopher Steele, an education program manager, received the 2016 Perkins Award from the National Association for Court Management

"It's because of employees like Kristopher that the Supreme Court has an outstanding reputation nationally," Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor said in a statement. "I have received multiple compliments about the Judicial College programs and our staff from my colleagues when attending national meetings."

"I am honored to win this award and will accept it on behalf of all the other dedicated personnel working behind the scenes at courts to help improve services to their communities," Mr. Steele said.

**Agency Briefs: AG's Office Doles Out Funding To Rape Crisis Centers; BWC; SOS; ODNR; PUCO; Senate**

Attorney General Mike DeWine on Friday announced that 29 rape crisis centers across the state will receive more than \$1.4 million in grant funding.

"We owe it to survivors of sexual assault to make sure they receive comprehensive support after an attack," AG DeWine said. "These funds will go toward helping agencies across the state to provide quality, compassionate care to those who need it."

The following 28 agencies will all receive \$45,803:

- Abuse and Rape Crisis Center of Warren County
- Alive, Inc., Steubenville
- Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, Ashland
- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Stark County
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Tuscarawas County
- Compass Family and Community Services, Youngstown
- Council on Domestic Violence/Open Arms, Findlay
- Crime Victim Services, Lima
- Edna Brooks Foundation/My Sister's Place, Athens
- Erie County Prosecutor
- Eve, Inc., Marietta
- Haven of Hope, Cambridge
- Helpline of Delaware and Morrow Counties
- Highland County Domestic Violence Task Force
- Lake County Prosecutor
- New Directions, Mt. Vernon
- OneEighty, Wayne County

- Project Woman, Springfield
- Rape Crisis Center of Medina and Summit Counties
- Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio
- The Cocoon, Bowling Green
- The Domestic Violence Shelter, Mansfield
- The Nord Center, Lorain
- Townhall II, Kent
- Tri-County Help Center, St. Clairsville
- Women Helping Women, Cincinnati
- YWCA of Northwest Ohio, Toledo

Another \$142,500 will be distributed to the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

**BWC:** As the Bureau of Workers' Compensation transitions to prospective billing, it is asking private employers to report their actual payroll for the policy year ended June 30 and to reconcile any differences in premium paid prior to the closure of the "True-up" window on Aug. 15.

Employers will be removed from their current rating plan or discount program if it BWC does not receive a payroll true-up by the due date. Outstanding payroll true-ups will render the employer ineligible for participation in future rating plans or discount programs until all outstanding payroll true-ups are complete.

"This step is an important part of BWC's ongoing efforts to modernize operations and provide better service to Ohio's employers," BWC Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison said in a statement. "It's also necessary for BWC to accurately calculate an employer's premium and for employers to maintain their participation in current rating plan or discount programs."

The transition, according to BWC, has allowed it to reduce base rates and offer employers more flexible payment options and the ability to better forecast their costs.

True-ups can be completed online and if done through the web qualifies eligible employers for a 1% premium rebate, up to a \$2,000 maximum.

The payroll true-up may also be completed through the call center at 1-800-644-6292.

**Secretary of State:** Jon Husted announced 8,480 new state business filings in June. The figure represents an increase over the same period on 2015, when 8,151 entities were formed.

June was again a record setting month for business filing; 4,300 more entities have filed so far in 2016 than at the same point in 2015.

New filings increased 21.8% from 2010-2015.

**Department of Natural Resources:** A total of 2,192 permits have been issued for drilling on the Utica Shale as of July 9, according to data from the Division of Oil and Gas Resources.

A total of 1,756 wells have been drilled, and 1,334 wells are in production, according to the ODNR.

The department also announced that Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor attended the opening ceremonies for the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation National Championship at the Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo.

**PUCO:** The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is remind consumers that that they may be eligible for budget billing.

The program, offered by Ohio's regulated electric and natural gas distribution companies, allows consumers to avoid spikes in billions in the summer and winter months.

**General Assembly:** Legislative staff and members of the Senate collected more than 33,000 pounds of canned food for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

The internal food drive also generated \$3,000 in donations, which will provide 39,500 meals to local residents.

#### **From Congress: Brown, Portman Applaud U.S. Attorney Confirmation; Kaptur Applauds Funding Awards; Gibbs; Ryan**

Ohio's senators this week applauded the confirmation of Carole Rendon as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) recommended Ms. Rendon, a former first assistant U.S. attorney, for the post last month.

"No one is more qualified to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District than Carole Rendon," Sen. Brown said in a statement. "Now that she is confirmed she can continue her work on behalf of Ohioans."

Sen. Portman said, "Carole Rendon is a proud Ohioan, an accomplished lawyer, and a dedicated public servant. She has already served Ohio with distinction for seven years, and I'm pleased that she will continue as U.S. Attorney for Northern Ohio. I am grateful to my colleagues for making the right decision and confirming her nomination."

**Border:** Sen. Brown urged customs and border protection to launch an investigation into produce made using child and forced labor.

Joining with Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), he wrote to CBP Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske decrying a loophole that allows some of those products into the country if there is not a sufficient supply.

"We urge you to continue that dialogue with regular meetings between NGOs, as well as other stakeholders, and CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the State Department, and the Department of Labor and a meeting in the very near term to discuss issues related to regulations. Increased communication will lead to more successful petitions and better enforcement against forced labor imports," the senators wrote.

**Funding:** U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) applauded several instances of new funding awarded to her district this week.

First she welcomed news of a \$700 million retooling of Toledo's Jeep North Assembly Plant.

The project, which will equip the plant for production of the next generation of Jeep Wrangler, was announced this week by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and promises 700 new jobs.

"This is almost beyond belief, given where we were eight short years ago," Rep. Kaptur said. "For seventy-five years Toledans have manufactured Wranglers. FCA's investment today will ensure this legacy remains for years to come."

The Cleveland Hopkins International Airport will also receive \$22.1 million in federal funds for improvements including safety upgrades and new snow removal equipment.

Lastly, Rep. Kaptur announced the award of a \$3.1 million grant to the Lorain Fire Department and the city of Lorain aimed at addressing a staffing crisis.

The funds, from FEMA's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program, aim to fix the fallout of the recent layoffs of 22 members of the city's fire department.

"This is obviously great news," Rep. Kaptur said. "Credit should go to the Lorain firefighters, who have actively organized in recent weeks and made their case effectively and persuasively, and to Lorain Mayor Chase Ritenauer and Lorain Fire Chief Tom Brown. Their diligence in helping to find a solution brought about this two-year solution to an immediate problem."

**Zika:** U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs and colleagues urged President Barack Obama to expand protections against the Zika virus. The Obama Administration has opposed a resolution that would permit mosquito control programs to implement control plans without duplicative permits, Rep. Gibbs said.

"I want to know why it is acceptable for Puerto Rico to increase their defense against Zika, but not the rest of the United States?" Rep. Gibbs asked in a statement. "All Americans should be protected against the spread of Zika and I encourage the president to change his mind and allow the increased use of live-saving pesticides and give pregnant women safety from this terrible illness. If the President ends his opposition to the Conference report, Congress can take swift action to protect those most vulnerable to Zika."

An amendment on Zika from U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles), meanwhile, failed with a 20-29 committee vote. It would have stricken a funding cap of \$461 million on bilateral family planning and created a funding floor of \$585 million to administer anti-Zika programs.

"I am deeply disappointed that House Republicans rejected this amendment and have decided to turn their back on thousands of men and women struggling through this crisis," Rep. Ryan said.

**Abortions:** Rep. Gibbs applauded the House passage of legislation aimed at protecting health care professionals who refuse to participate in providing abortions.

The lawmaker supported the bill, saying it protects the religious freedom of those professionals.

"The House's vote today gives those willing to exercise their beliefs the option of using the court system if their employment is in jeopardy, instead of being at the mercy of a government bureaucracy," he said. "It is critical that we not only protect the unborn, but protect those whose livelihoods may be at stake for providing that protection."

**Trade:** An amendment from Rep. Ryan that would require an impact analysis on free trade agreements on wages and the demand for educator workers passed a House committee this week by voice vote.

The amendment is to a measure that would require the Bureau of Labor Statistics to submit a report on the impact of such agreements on the American workforce.

"All that you need to do is look at the shuttered factories and shattered communities across Ohio to see the devastating affect free trade agreements have had across our country," he said. "I am proud that my amendment passed and we will soon be able to know the true cost of these deals to our nation," Mr. Ryan said.

**Israel:** Sen. Portman and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) released a bipartisan report from the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations examining government grants to OneVoice, which is a non-governmental organization in Israel and Palestine.

The report examines the nearly \$350,000 in grants received from the State Department to foster peace between the two counties. The report determined the NGO complied with the department's terms but shortly after the terms expired used the funds to support a political campaign.

"The State Department ignored warnings signs and funded a politically active group in a politically sensitive environment with inadequate safeguards," Sen. Portman said. "It is completely unacceptable that U.S. taxpayer dollars were used to build a political campaign infrastructure that was deployed - immediately after the grant ended - against the leader of our closest ally in the Middle East. American resources should be used to help our allies in the region, not undermine them."

**SNAP:** Rep. Ryan this week sought to push for increased digital access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

"If we continue on our current trajectory, we will have an adult obesity rate of 60% within 15 years," he said. "In a country, where 23.5 million people live in food deserts, we cannot allow the status quo to continue and must find new ways for all Americans to have access to fresh, healthy food."

### **Gongwer's Ohio Convention Coverage**

Gongwer News Service's planned coverage of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland next week will include regular updates to the website during the day.

Significant breaking news will be distributed through email alerts but subscribers can check the website throughout each day of the convention for updates focusing on activities of the Ohio delegation and other events.

Subscribers may also follow reporter Mikel Livingston and Gongwer on Twitter for links to those updates on our website. Mike's account is @mikellivingston and the main account is @gongwer.

### **Attorney General's Opinion**

No. 2016-023, Requested by Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney Gregg Marx.  
SYLLABUS:

1. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by Violet Township may provide medical services in nonemergency situations pursuant to R.C. 4765.361, so long as the medical services are performed under the direction of the emergency medical technician's medical director or cooperating physician advisory

board, are within the scope of practice of the emergency medical technician, and do not conflict with the emergency medical services described in R.C. 4765.37, R.C. 4765.38, R.C. 4765.39, and the rules adopted by the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services.

2. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township is immune from civil liability for injury, death, or loss to person or property resulting from the provision of medical services in a nonemergency situation unless the services are provided in a manner that constitutes wanton or willful misconduct, the services are manifestly outside the scope of the emergency medical technician's employment, or the services are performed with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner.

3. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township may not provide medical services on a routine, day-to-day basis outside the boundaries of the township when revenue from a township tax levy pays the emergency medical technician's compensation, unless the township has entered into a contract with another political subdivision pursuant to R.C. 9.60 or R.C. 505.44, or the township provides the medical services to the territory of another township or municipal corporation as a member of a joint fire district pursuant to R.C. 505.371, a fire and ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.375, or a joint ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.71.

4. A board of township trustees may establish reasonable charges for the use of medical services that are provided by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township in nonemergency situations and may collect those charges from a private hospital system that agrees to pay those charges on behalf of the recipient of the medical services.

5. A board of township trustees may contract with a private hospital system to provide medical services in nonemergency situations by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township to patients of the hospital who are residents and nonresidents of the township, so long as the private hospital system is a nonprofit corporation and the medical services are performed within the territory of the township.

6. A contract between the Violet Township Board of Trustees and a private hospital system for the provision of medical services in nonemergency situations may provide that the private hospital system will pay the township a sum of money for each visit performed by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic pursuant to the contract and that emergency medical technicians will provide medical services in nonemergency situations during the emergency medical technicians' regular work hours.



## **Supplemental Agency Calendar**

### **Wednesday, July 20**

Rail Development Commission, 1980 West Broad Street, Rm. GA, Columbus, 11 a.m.

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 3 p.m. (Dropout Prevention and Recovery Study Committee)

### **Thursday, July 21**

Board of Building Standards, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 9 a.m. (Code Committee)

Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission, Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

## **Supplemental Event Planner**

### **Saturday, July 16**

Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday, July 27**

Beginning of Ohio State Fair

### **Sunday, August 7**

End of Ohio State Fair

### **Sunday, October 2**

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fall fest fundraiser, Peterson Farm, 5564 Grassy Branch Rd., Sabina, 4 p.m., (\$50 per Family | \$25 per Person to Peterson for Good Government)

### **Thursday, October 20**

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (\$1000 Event Sponsor, includes up to 6 participants; \$500 Lane Sponsor, includes up to 4 participants; \$150 per couple | \$100 per person | \$50 Dinner only to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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## **Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, July 16-Monday, July 18**

### **Legislative Committees**

No legislative committees scheduled.

### **Agency Calendar**

No agency meetings scheduled.

### **Event Planner**

#### **Saturday, July 16**

Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention luncheon, Westin, 21 E. Fifth St., Cincinnati, 11:30 a.m., (Featuring U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee)  
Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.  
Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention dinner gala, Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati, 7:30 p.m., (Featuring Vernon Jordan)

#### **Monday, July 18**

#### **Republican National Convention, Cleveland**

17 S. High St., Suite 630  
Columbus Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

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## **Ohio Report for Friday, July 15, 2016**

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Day Planner

Event Planner

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**Volume #85, Report #136 -- Friday, July 15, 2016**

**Timeline For Energy Freeze Action Unclear, Says Senate No. 2**

A Senate leader said lawmakers may not act on the soon-to-end freeze on renewable energy and energy efficiency standards until sometime next year.

Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina), the Senate's president pro tem and likely next chamber leader, said in an interview this week he advocates for an "all the above approach" to rethinking the mandates that were frozen in 2014 and are set to kick back in at the end of this year without legislative action.

But such an undertaking might not be easier considering the limited number of session days scheduled this fall, he said. The Senate is scheduled to return in late September with at most 21 days set for work in committees, and much fewer days anticipated for full sessions. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 1, 2016) The House, meanwhile, is set to reconvene after the November election with at most eight full session days.

"I think that's a pretty big issue and if there's not that many session days it remains to be seen whether that'll be tackled in that amount of time," Sen. Obhof said. "I definitely think moving forward whether it's at the end of this year or at the beginning of the next General Assembly we need to come up with a comprehensive and consistent policy on energy."

By not acting by Dec. 31, the freeze would thaw, allowing the standards to kick back into effect, which Republicans argue could harm Ohio considering lingering uncertainty over the federal Clean Power Plan and other unknowns. Proponents of the standards say any effort to extend the freeze or lower the standards would take the state backward.

There are currently three bills pending in either chamber with different approaches. A bill from Sen. Bill Seitz (SB 320) would extend the freeze until 2019, while a bill from Rep. Ron Amstutz (HB 554) would extend the freeze indefinitely. A third bill (SB 325), from Sen. Kris Jordan, would abolish the mandates completely. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 11, 2016)

If none of those bills pass by the end of the 131<sup>st</sup> General Assembly, the legislative slate will be wiped clean and a new bill would need to be authored to tackle the issue next year.

Sen. Obhof said that even if lawmakers act on the freeze, he believes more comprehensive action would be needed in the next General Assembly.

"I think there will be some kind of action in the next 12 to 18 months regardless of whether the freeze is extended or not," Sen. Obhof said. "I don't know if there is any

science supporting the current numbers and mandates in law. I think we need to have a fact-based approach, one that has room for all the natural resources available."

The pending end of the freeze is one of the reasons cited by Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) as a reason for more Republican scrutiny of Gov. John Kasich's recent appointee to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Democratic attorney Howard Petricoff on Tuesday faced his first hearing before the Sen. Seitz's Senate Public Utilities Committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 12, 2016)

"I believe we're at a unique crossroads caused by a fairly simultaneous convergence of numerous complex issues," Sen. Seitz said. "I think we all need to make an effort to understand each other on these issues and of course no one is more central to that vortex than the five members of the PUCO."

Other uncertainties he cited include ongoing rehearings of proposed Power Purchase Agreements from AEP and FirstEnergy, the departure of former PUCO Chairman Andre Porter, and the ongoing federal court case over the legality of the Clean Power Plan.

### **ECOT Debate Becomes Campaign Fodder In State Senate Race**

In one of the first significant rhetorical volleys in this legislative campaign cycle, the rising controversy over funding and student attendance at the state's largest online charter school is a point of contention in the race for the open 16<sup>th</sup> Senate District.

Democrat Cathy Johnson, a teacher looking to upset favored Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) in the right-leaning western Franklin County seat, fired the initial salvo this week in criticizing the Republican over issues related to the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow.

Her criticisms were dismissed by Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville), chairman of the Republican Senate Campaign Committee, who described the Democrat's statements as "misguided to say the least" and defended the Republican's positions on and support for education.

The race for the seat being vacated by Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) is one of only a handful in the Senate this year that's expected to be even marginally competitive thanks to the GOP-led reapportionment process. It has trended Republican for several years, but Democrats are hoping that with a polarizing candidate atop the GOP ticket they can make hay in legislative races this fall.

ECOT is currently locked in a legal battle with the Ohio Department of Education over attendance records, with a looming audit having the potential to strip millions of funding from the online charter founded by Bill Lager. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 11, 2016)

Ms. Johnson in a campaign release "announced her support" for ODE's attempts to examine ECOT's records and said Rep. Kunze voted "against measures to hold e-

schools accountable in 2015" and "has accepted \$33,000 from ECOT's founder, Bill Lager, over the past four years."

"As a mother, teacher and taxpayer, I am astonished by the deceptive tactics of this taxpayer-funded e-school," Ms. Johnson said. "It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance."

The Democrat said Ms. Kunze "voted with Republicans to block amendments that would have required annual audits for charter school operators, clarified that records of all charter school operators are public records and given the public more access to information on charter school board members and meeting times."

"It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance," Ms. Johnson added. "Instead, she chose to accept donations from ECOT's founder. We need a State Senator who is dedicated to fighting for students and families. Anyone can say yes to special interests with deep pockets."

Sen. Burke questioned the focus of Ms. Johnson's assertions, saying Rep. Kunze has a record that belies such criticisms.

"Stephanie Kunze has a record of supporting both public education and parent choice," he said. "I would also say that both traditional public education and charter schools and ECOT schools, etc. are all in need of improvement beyond a shadow of a doubt and that is what we're working on."

To that end, Sen. Burke said, Ms. Kunze was a cosponsor of HB 2, which he described as "the largest reform bill dealing with non-traditional public schools." As the legislature continues to look for improvements to all kinds of public schools, he added, "she is obviously supportive of that."

"I would say, unlike Ms. Johnson's statement, that rather than have a singular source of education, that Stephanie believes parents should have a choice. The competition within that market drives improvement, so in order for public schools to get better, parents should have a choice."

The Republican said some of the tabled budget amendments the Democrat is apparently referring to "would have basically eliminated parent choice."

Sen. Burke also pushed back on the suggestion of a quid pro quo involving campaign donations.

"I imagine Stephanie Kunze, like me, accepts money from a lot of people," he said. "I've taken money from Bill Lager. I also was a direct cosponsor of (Sen. Peggy Lehner's) bill to reform ECOT and charter schools from day one."



"I guess the inverse question there would be, 'If the (Ohio Education Association) paid money to Stephanie Kunze, do you think she'd change?' I'm guessing probably not."

The debate over ECOT escalated considerably in recent weeks as ODE moved forward with plans to review the schools attendance records. In the latest twist, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported Thursday that ECOT is refusing to release some of the requested data.

As election season progresses, Democrats have increasingly pointed to the majority GOP's ties to ECOT, which has been at the forefront of the Republican-led expansion of the charter industry in the state.

Carrying forward the support of his predecessor, Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) spoke at this year's ECOT graduation ceremony, which in the past has been attended by other prominent Republican officeholders.

The Ohio Democratic Party recently called for a moratorium on state funding to ECOT and a larger investigation into the state's charter school system, stating: "Last year as the Ohio General Assembly considered a bill to reform charter schools, Lager gave nearly \$150,000 to 21 Ohio Republican legislators over the course of two months."

#### **RNC Update: Trump Confirms Pence As VP Pick; 'Never Trump' Efforts Fail...**

Donald Trump on Friday became the first presumptive nominee to announce his vice presidential pick via Twitter.

As expected, Mr. Trump confirmed he has tabbed Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as his running mate in a tweet shortly before 11 a.m.

Mr. Trump had previously announced he was postponing the New York City press conference where he was expected to make the announcement following a mass killing in Nice, France.

But Gov. Pence faced a noon deadline Friday by which to withdraw from his gubernatorial reelection bid in order for the Indiana Republican Party to name a replacement candidate, meaning the news would have been confirmed then even without an announcement from the Trump campaign.

The formal news conference will now take place at 11 a.m. Saturday in New Jersey.

Word broke Thursday that the first term Indiana governor and former congressman was to be Mr. Trump's No. 2.

Gov. Pence has been engaged in a gubernatorial rematch with Democrat John Gregg - a race that's taken on a new element of competitiveness following Republican discontent over Mr. Pence's handling of last year's so-called Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Mr. Pence, well thought of in religious conservative circles, is seen as an attempt by Mr. Trump to appeal to that voter bloc and to create inroads with Congress, where Gov. Pence served from 2001-2013.

The campaign of DNC presumptive nominee Hillary Clinton immediately blasted the pick in a statement, calling it the "most extreme VP pick in a generation."

Clinton campaign Chairman John Podesta criticized the governor for defunding Planned Parenthood, advocating early on for the Tea Party movement, and signing a religious freedom law that opponents say legalized discrimination against LGBT citizens.

"By picking Mike Pence as his running mate, Donald Trump has doubled down on some of his most disturbing beliefs by choosing an incredibly divisive and unpopular running mate known for supporting discriminatory politics and failed economic policies that favor millionaires and corporations over working families," Mr. Podesta said.

The campaign then promptly organized a media call featuring allied groups criticizing the Republican ticket.

**Rules Committee:** GOP leaders and Trump loyalists thwarted plans to undermine Mr. Trump's candidacy during a closely watched RNC Rules Committee meeting Thursday.

The morning meeting was delayed several hours while party leaders attempted to negotiate with members of the "Never Trump" movement, but talks soon fell apart. Those members had hoped to change rules to permit delegates to vote their conscience, thereby freeing bound delegates to vote against Mr. Trump on the first ballot.

But as the day wore on it became clear the anti-Trump contingent had too little support for success and lacked the required votes to create a minority report that would have ensured debate on the issue before the full convention next week. Amendment author Kendal Unruh said she would still attempt to earn the required 28 signatures for a minority report.

Following much debate, delegates also shot down a proposed amendment that would have barred lobbyists from being members of the RNC - a change Ohio delegate and lobbyist JoAnn Davidson strongly criticized in remarks before the body.

The committee, which had planned to meet Friday, eventually finished the agenda late Thursday and adjourned. The rules package will be sent to the full convention Monday for consideration.

RNC Chairman Reince Priebus said the meeting "made clear the high level of unity within our Party."

"Grassroots voices from every state and territory have crafted a set of rules which will keep our party strong at the local, state, and national level, and we honored the spirit of democracy by conducting our Rules Committee meeting in a completely open and transparent fashion," he said.

**Schedule:** The RNC had not yet released an official schedule of events for convention week in Cleveland as of midday Friday, just two days before the RNC is scheduled to kickoff.

But Ohio leaders and others have already announced a slew of ancillary events timed to capitalize on the convention crowd.

The Ohio Republican Party will host daily 8 a.m. breakfasts featuring Treasurer Josh Mandel and U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton (Monday); U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson and Frank Luntz (Tuesday); U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi and House Speaker Paul Ryan (Wednesday); and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi (Thursday).

The ORP already announced a 3:30 p.m. Tuesday event at the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame to honor Gov. John Kasich.

A sampling of other events during the course of the week includes:

- Sunday - a "Taste of Little Italy" event featuring Attorney General Mike DeWine at 3 p.m. at Tony Brush Park
- Monday - a 3 p.m. campaign event in which Sen. Rob Portman, former Speaker Newt Gingrich and Sen. Joni Ernst will address Sen. Portman volunteers at the Tri-C Metropolitan Campus
- Tuesday, a 10:15 a.m. reception for media members with Sen. Rob Portman; and 11 a.m. welcome tea hosted by the Ohio Federation of Republican Women at the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square featuring U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.)

A partial list of convention speakers was officially released Thursday, although the time and dates of the speeches have yet to be announced by the RNC.

In contrast, the Democratic National Convention Committee announced Friday the headline speakers for the DNC in Philadelphia later this month. They include First Lady Michelle Obama and Sen. Bernie Sanders July 25, President Bill Clinton July 26, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden July 27, and Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton July 28.

A series of musical acts will perform each day of the RNC at Freedom Plaza, which will also include drinks and food. For a complete list, visit the RNC's website. An evening

concert, featuring a variety of "American Idol" and "The Voice" winners will take place at 11 p.m. Tuesday at Gray's Armory.

The Clinton campaign and the DNC, meanwhile, are organizing their own counter events in Cleveland with a slew of press conferences and conference calls aimed at undercutting the RNC. Former Gov. Ted Strickland and the Ohio Democratic Party will also ramp up their attacks on U.S. Sen. Rob Portman as they seek to link him to Mr. Trump.

Other groups have scheduled their own events to criticize Republicans. The Ohio AFL-CIO is set to "welcome" Republicans to the city during a 2 p.m. Sunday event featuring former Gov. Ted Strickland at the Laborers' Local 310 Hall.

ProgressOhio has created a calendar of counter events that includes a "Daily Show" convention sideshow, League of Women Voters voter registration drives, and daily nonviolence training for protestors.

**Bob Bennett:** The City of Cleveland granted a secondary street name to the intersection of Ontario Street and Huron Road for the duration of the convention. The intersection will be known as Bob Bennett Way in honor of former ORP chairman.

"More than any one person, Bob Bennett steadfastly sought to bring the Convention to Cleveland," Ohio Republican Party Chairman Matt Borges said. "We are sad that he is not here to see the world spotlight on Cleveland, but grateful to the Mayor's office for honoring him in this way so that we can acknowledge his contribution to this week."

**Tourism:** With the RNC expected to draw 50,000 people to Cleveland, TourismOhio is rolling out all the stops to showcase Ohio, according to a press release.

The group is launching a 360 degree "virtual reality experience" during the convention, to capitalize on visitors and showcase various Ohio hotspots.

The experience will be hosted in a 40-passenger bus located outside the Quicken Loans Arena, according to the release, and will "offer a personal Ohio adventure for participants with a wide range of interests." Those not at the event can take part online.

Some of the featured items include Cedar Point, Hocking Hills, parasailing over Lake Erie, and various Cleveland attractions.

### **Campus Culture Survey Results To Inform Continued Sexual Violence Prevention, Response Efforts**

Students largely believe that their colleges and universities would seriously address sexual assault reports and take corrective action against offenders, according to their responses on surveys disseminated by all of the state's public institutions.

The surveys were an integral piece of the Changing Campus Culture initiative, which the Department of Higher Education launched last fall in an effort to encourage best practices in preventing and responding to sexual violence on campuses. (Survey Results)

Chancellor John Carey urged schools to join the voluntary effort and they responded. All of Ohio's public universities and 80% of private institutions participated in the campus climate survey that asked students to give feedback on how they think sexual assault is being handled and whether they know how to file reports.

Michelle Johnston, the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College president who has been the face of the initiative, said she's encouraged by the swell of interest in improving sexual violence policies.

The feedback, she said, will be used to steer the other facets of the \$2-million initiative, which include developing comprehensive response policies, adopting survivor-centered responses, launching awareness campaigns and implementing comprehensive training programs.

"With 100% of our public colleges and universities completing a common survey of our students, we have a clearer picture of where we are, collectively and as unique institutions," she said in a statement. "Using this data, we will thoroughly analyze where we are now and will chart a course for where we want to be, in relation to positive and safe environments on our campuses."

Students who responded to the survey agreed, on average, that the university would take sexual assault reports seriously and would support those making the reports. The average respondent also said the university would take corrective action against offenders and would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation.

However, students largely disagreed or were neutral with a survey statement that sexual violence is not a problem on their campuses and responses were mixed on a question of understanding institution policies for addressing complaints.

Less than one-third of students reported they don't know the contact information to get on-campus support for sexual violence despite about 13% of them saying they knew women who had been assaulted on campus.

"As I have shared many times before, numbers don't lie, and in the case of sexual violence on our campuses in Ohio, the numbers tell a story that needs a better ending," Ms. Johnston said of why the initiative was launched in October.

In addition to the aggregate data compiled by ODHE, the agency said campuses also administered more comprehensive surveys that will inform policies specific to individual institutions. All public institutions and 88% of private colleges and universities completed those surveys.

Ohio is one of few states in the country that has collected such data, according to ODHE. Much of the work to complete the surveys was done with the help of grants that were funded with a portion of the \$2 million allocated to the initiative in the biennium budget (HB 64).

The grants are also to be used to support putting best practices in place. The overall budget funding has paid for, among other things, webinars and summits to keep institutions engaged in the initiative and collaborating with one another.

"It's exciting to see Ohio dedicating state resources to collect prevalence data, support survivors and prevent sexual violence on college campuses, and partnering with the coalition and rape crisis centers," said Monika Johnson Hostler, the president of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

"It is through this strategic, long-term investment and the development of partnerships between campuses and community-based programs that we will see long-term positive change for students."

### **Becker Defends Right-To-Work Bill For Public Sector, Acknowledges Its Passage Is A Longshot**

The sponsor of public sector right-to-work legislation defends introducing the controversial measure while acknowledging it is likely dead-on-arrival.

Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) said legislation (HB 583) that would remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization is good policy that will likely not be well-received in the General Assembly.

"It's something my constituents have been demanding for a long time," he said in an interview. "I think it's good for Ohio and hopefully it will be able to move forward."

But We Are Ohio, which was formed in opposition to similar legislation designed to curtail the collective bargaining power of public sector unions, slammed the proposal, saying that workers in state with similar laws make less money and are more prone to on-the-job injuries.

"We believe right-to-work is wrong for Ohio, for working people, for all of us," spokesman Dennis Willard said in an interview.

"There is no support from working people in this state for this extreme idea."

Asked about the likelihood of the bill becoming law, Rep. Becker said he has "no reason to be optimistic."

"I have no feedback one way or the other, but based on the public comments that the governor has made and based on my feelings of what's going on in the Senate or where they might be, I'm not optimistic," he said.

Gov. John Kasich has said repeatedly that right-to-work legislation is not on his agenda in the wake of the public rebuke over similar legislation (SB5, 129<sup>th</sup> General Assembly) that was struck down by the state's voters in a labor-backed referendum.

John Fourtney, spokesman for the Senate Majority Caucus, said the measure has yet to be vetted by members. However, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) has spoken favorably of eliminating a requirement for union shop employees to pay union dues (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 4, 2013), but has said the support is not there among his members. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 3, 2013)

Carolyn Best, spokeswoman for Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), also said the bill will be discussed further among caucus members in the fall.

The fight over Senate Bill 5 galvanized the labor movement, and Rep. Becker acknowledged that the introduction of similar legislation could provide good political fodder for Democrats in an election year.

"I could see that being a drawback. It just gives the Democrats another talking point and a fundraising letter to send out," he said.

However, he said his measure is different from Senate Bill 5 in that it does not address collective bargaining benefits.

"It is simply an opt-out for public sector employees," he said.

Democrats and labor groups have derided right-to-work legislation for allowing those who opt out of paying union dues to still receive the benefits from negotiated terms of contracts. But Rep. Becker said those who opt-out under his legislation would no longer be protected by unions.

"If they run into some kind of trouble with management, they will not be able to look to the union," he said, adding that it is up to management to decide how to deal with the wages and benefits of non-union employees.

Critics have also said that right-to-work legislation is designed to weaken unions both financially and politically. Rep. Becker, however, also downplayed that critique.

"I wouldn't expect a mass exodus from unions if this were to be signed into law," he said. "If there were a significant exit, it would tell me that there's a problem with the unions. If the only way they can maintain their union through a captive audience then they need to be looking in the mirror."

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper called the bill a "sneak attack on Ohio's working families for the lame duck session."

**Education Notes: ECOT Defends Decision To Withhold Log-In Data; Antioch Receives Accreditation; Lawmaker Urges Standards Feedback**

A spokesman for the state's largest online charter school is defending the school's refusal to hand over student log-in data requested by the Department of Education.

Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow is not breaking any laws by refusing the data that's at the center of a lawsuit alleging ODE will misuse that information to determine per-pupil funding, school spokesman Neil Clark said.

A Franklin County judge earlier this week denied ECOT's request for a temporary restraining order to stop ODE from moving forward with an audit until after the court rules how student attendance should be used to inform payment totals.

ODE on Monday moved forward with the attendance review, but an email from the agency's attorney to ECOT revealed that the school was refusing to turn over the log-in and log-out information for students.

The agency's attorney Douglas Cole requested access to the documents be immediately provided, but Mr. Clark said that won't be happening.

"We're saying we're not doing anything unless the court tells us to," he said in an interview.

ECOT is interpreting the judge's decision differently than ODE, he said. While it may have allowed the audit to move forward, there is no specification that the review can occur in a way that conflicts with a contract between the school and ODE

The school's lawsuit argues that ODE's decision to not provide funding for students who weren't logging in at least five hours per day is out of line with an agreement that has been in place for previous audits. That contractual agreement states that the school must offer up to 920 hours of learning opportunities - not that students must partake, Mr. Clark said.

"It's just not about did you show up today, it's far more detailed than that; it's how did you get to that 920?" he said.

ODE, meanwhile, is contending that online schools are required by state law to make daily student participation records accessible, regardless of how that information is being used. Mr. Evans said in his email a statute specifying that mandate has been in place since February.



The e-school's governing board was expected to meet Friday - mostly in executive session - to discuss the lawsuit and next steps.

**Accreditation:** Antioch College this week announced it has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

The independent college had spent the last two years pursuing accreditation after reopening in 2011. Originally founded in 1850, it closed in 2008 amid financial troubles and leaders have since been focused on building the historic institution back up.

President Tom Manley said in a video posted to YouTube that the university can now focus its attention on continuing to build a financial foundation and recruit students.

"This great result comes from the hard work of our faculty, our staff, students, our alumni who have been so incredibly supportive and the leadership of our board of trustees," he said. "It is a ringing endorsement of the quality and strength of the education that Antioch college can now offer, and it is a vote of confidence in our ability to offer than education for years to come. "

The commission's decision is retroactive, meaning the recent graduates in the class of 2016 will receive diplomas from an accredited institution, Antioch reported.

**Standards Revisions:** Rep. Jack Cera is urging educators and the public to provide feedback on proposed revisions to English and math standards.

The Bellaire Democrat said his constituents have shared frustration with the current common core standards, known as Ohio's Learning Standards, and now is the time to recommend changes.

Through 5 p.m. Aug. 1, ODE is accepting public comments on the proposed revisions that were drafted in response to the work of a task force and an earlier public survey.

"I wanted to take the time to share this opportunity with the people of the 96th District because I have received many questions from teachers, parents and administrators about the education department's new revisions," he said. "This is a perfect opportunity for parents to get involved in the process and voice their questions, comments and concerns with those who create these standards directly."

**Court Briefs: Dems File Brief In 'Golden Week' Case; 1851 Center Seeks To Stop Eminent Domain For Pipeline; Judicial College Employee Honored**

The Ohio Democratic Party has thrown its weight behind an effort to ensure that unregistered voters have a small window prior to the presidential election to register and cast a ballot on the same day.

In a brief filed with U.S. Sixth District Court of Appeals, the party asks the court to uphold a lower court ruling that found the elimination of "Golden Week" to be a violation of the Voting Rights Act.

"Jon Husted and Mike DeWine continue to waste time and money in court, ignoring the Constitution and clear precedent while attempting to make it harder to vote," Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper said in a statement.

"In their appeal, Husted and DeWine blatantly disregard the fact that eliminating an additional week of early voting and same-day registration disproportionately impacted African-American voters. The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

In his ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Watson found that the elimination of Golden Week disproportionately impacted black voters in Ohio. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

In a separate decision, Judge Watson denied a request to stay the ruling for the November presidential election while the decision is appealed.

ODP is now accusing Secretary of State Jon Husted of failing to heed the ruling by not providing accurate information for voters about the start of early voting on his office's website.

"Jon Husted has a long history of blatantly ignoring court decisions that have rebuked his attacks on Ohioans' voting rights, and his refusal, once again, to provide accurate information about early voting is plainly designed to mislead Ohioans about their voting rights," Mr. Pepper said.

"If he won't relent and update the misleading information his office is providing, we will take action to ensure he follows the court order restoring 'Golden Week.' The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

Husted spokesman Josh Eck said the website won't be changed while the case is under appeal.

"The ruling was stayed for the upcoming August Special Election and is currently on appeal ahead of the November election. It would be irresponsible for the Secretary to begin advertising changes that may very well have to undergo further changes before the General Election, as they did in 2012," he said.

"Secretary Husted is committed to making sure all voters know the rules and can participate and we welcome others to join us in pursuing clarity over chaos."

**Eminent Domain:** The 1851 Center for Constitutional Law has asked the Wood County Common Pleas Court to dismiss more than a dozen eminent domain cases filed by a Texas pipeline company.

The group said in a court filing that Kinder Morgan's eminent domain action against 15 families in the Bowling Green area violates Ohio's constitution because the project for which it is seeking the land is not a "public necessity."

The land would be used for the "Utopia Pipeline," a private ethane pipeline running underground to a Canadian plastics factory.

"Imagine that a private sector lawyer desired to get to the Wood County Court of Common Pleas faster. Could he forcibly appropriate others' private land along the route, from his front door step to the court's parking lot to build a personal road, with no on-ramps or exits, and twenty foot walls on either side, just to represent one very wealthy client who anticipated routinely using his services?" the filing reads.

"If the answer is 'no,' then it must be here as well. And it is 'no,' because no such road would be a public use, even if the lawyer appealed to the public interest in 'justice' and 'market demand for lawyers.'"

Maurice Thompson, the group's executive director, said in a statement the proposed eminent domain action is "redistribution of wealth of the worst sort."

"The abuse along the Utopia Pipeline is a prime example of what can happen when legislators attempt to auction off Ohioans' property rights to the highest bidder," he said. "Ultimately, the Ohio Constitution prevents this abuse, and we will prevail in court. But statutes inviting this sort of behavior should be amended or repealed."

**Honor:** A long-time employee of the Ohio Judicial College has been nationally recognized for his work, the high court reported.

Kristopher Steele, an education program manager, received the 2016 Perkins Award from the National Association for Court Management

"It's because of employees like Kristopher that the Supreme Court has an outstanding reputation nationally," Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor said in a statement. "I have received multiple compliments about the Judicial College programs and our staff from my colleagues when attending national meetings."

"I am honored to win this award and will accept it on behalf of all the other dedicated personnel working behind the scenes at courts to help improve services to their communities," Mr. Steele said.

**Agency Briefs: AG's Office Doles Out Funding To Rape Crisis Centers; BWC; SOS; ODNR; PUCO; Senate**

Attorney General Mike DeWine on Friday announced that 29 rape crisis centers across the state will receive more than \$1.4 million in grant funding.

"We owe it to survivors of sexual assault to make sure they receive comprehensive support after an attack," AG DeWine said. "These funds will go toward helping agencies across the state to provide quality, compassionate care to those who need it."

The following 28 agencies will all receive \$45,803:

- Abuse and Rape Crisis Center of Warren County
- Alive, Inc., Steubenville
- Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, Ashland
- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Stark County
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Tuscarawas County
- Compass Family and Community Services, Youngstown
- Council on Domestic Violence/Open Arms, Findlay
- Crime Victim Services, Lima
- Edna Brooks Foundation/My Sister's Place, Athens
- Erie County Prosecutor
- Eve, Inc., Marietta
- Haven of Hope, Cambridge
- Helpline of Delaware and Morrow Counties
- Highland County Domestic Violence Task Force
- Lake County Prosecutor
- New Directions, Mt. Vernon
- OneEighty, Wayne County

- Project Woman, Springfield
- Rape Crisis Center of Medina and Summit Counties
- Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio
- The Cocoon, Bowling Green
- The Domestic Violence Shelter, Mansfield
- The Nord Center, Lorain
- Townhall II, Kent
- Tri-County Help Center, St. Clairsville
- Women Helping Women, Cincinnati
- YWCA of Northwest Ohio, Toledo

Another \$142,500 will be distributed to the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

**BWC:** As the Bureau of Workers' Compensation transitions to prospective billing, it is asking private employers to report their actual payroll for the policy year ended June 30 and to reconcile any differences in premium paid prior to the closure of the "True-up" window on Aug. 15.

Employers will be removed from their current rating plan or discount program if it BWC does not receive a payroll true-up by the due date. Outstanding payroll true-ups will render the employer ineligible for participation in future rating plans or discount programs until all outstanding payroll true-ups are complete.

"This step is an important part of BWC's ongoing efforts to modernize operations and provide better service to Ohio's employers," BWC Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison said in a statement. "It's also necessary for BWC to accurately calculate an employer's premium and for employers to maintain their participation in current rating plan or discount programs."

The transition, according to BWC, has allowed it to reduce base rates and offer employers more flexible payment options and the ability to better forecast their costs.

True-ups can be completed online and if done through the web qualifies eligible employers for a 1% premium rebate, up to a \$2,000 maximum.

The payroll true-up may also be completed through the call center at 1-800-644-6292.

**Secretary of State:** Jon Husted announced 8,480 new state business filings in June. The figure represents an increase over the same period on 2015, when 8,151 entities were formed.

June was again a record setting month for business filing; 4,300 more entities have filed so far in 2016 than at the same point in 2015.

New filings increased 21.8% from 2010-2015.

**Department of Natural Resources:** A total of 2,192 permits have been issued for drilling on the Utica Shale as of July 9, according to data from the Division of Oil and Gas Resources.

A total of 1,756 wells have been drilled, and 1,334 wells are in production, according to the ODNR.

The department also announced that Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor attended the opening ceremonies for the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation National Championship at the Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo.

**PUCO:** The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is remind consumers that that they may be eligible for budget billing.

The program, offered by Ohio's regulated electric and natural gas distribution companies, allows consumers to avoid spikes in billion in the summer and winter months.

**General Assembly:** Legislative staff and members of the Senate collected more than 33,000 pounds of canned food for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

The internal food drive also generated \$3,000 in donations, which will provide 39,500 meals to local residents.

#### **From Congress: Brown, Portman Applaud U.S. Attorney Confirmation; Kaptur Applauds Funding Awards; Gibbs; Ryan**

Ohio's senators this week applauded the confirmation of Carole Rendon as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) recommended Ms. Rendon, a former first assistant U.S. attorney, for the post last month.

"No one is more qualified to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District than Carole Rendon," Sen. Brown said in a statement. "Now that she is confirmed she can continue her work on behalf of Ohioans."

Sen. Portman said, "Carole Rendon is a proud Ohioan, an accomplished lawyer, and a dedicated public servant. She has already served Ohio with distinction for seven years, and I'm pleased that she will continue as U.S. Attorney for Northern Ohio. I am grateful to my colleagues for making the right decision and confirming her nomination."

**Border:** Sen. Brown urged customs and border protection to launch an investigation into produce made using child and forced labor.

Joining with Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), he wrote to CBP Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske decrying a loophole that allows some of those products into the country if there is not a sufficient supply.

"We urge you to continue that dialogue with regular meetings between NGOs, as well as other stakeholders, and CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the State Department, and the Department of Labor and a meeting in the very near term to discuss issues related to regulations. Increased communication will lead to more successful petitions and better enforcement against forced labor imports," the senators wrote.

**Funding:** U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) applauded several instances of new funding awarded to her district this week.

First she welcomed news of a \$700 million retooling of Toledo's Jeep North Assembly Plant.

The project, which will equip the plant for production of the next generation of Jeep Wrangler, was announced this week by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and promises 700 new jobs.

"This is almost beyond belief, given where we were eight short years ago," Rep. Kaptur said. "For seventy-five years Toledans have manufactured Wranglers. FCA's investment today will ensure this legacy remains for years to come."

The Cleveland Hopkins International Airport will also receive \$22.1 million in federal funds for improvements including safety upgrades and new snow removal equipment.

Lastly, Rep. Kaptur announced the award of a \$3.1 million grant to the Lorain Fire Department and the city of Lorain aimed at addressing a staffing crisis.

The funds, from FEMA's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program, aim to fix the fallout of the recent layoffs of 22 members of the city's fire department.

"This is obviously great news," Rep. Kaptur said. "Credit should go to the Lorain firefighters, who have actively organized in recent weeks and made their case effectively and persuasively, and to Lorain Mayor Chase Ritenauer and Lorain Fire Chief Tom Brown. Their diligence in helping to find a solution brought about this two-year solution to an immediate problem."

**Zika:** U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs and colleagues urged President Barack Obama to expand protections against the Zika virus. The Obama Administration has opposed a resolution that would permit mosquito control programs to implement control plans without duplicative permits, Rep. Gibbs said.

"I want to know why it is acceptable for Puerto Rico to increase their defense against Zika, but not the rest of the United States?" Rep. Gibbs asked in a statement. "All Americans should be protected against the spread of Zika and I encourage the president to change his mind and allow the increased use of live-saving pesticides and give pregnant women safety from this terrible illness. If the President ends his opposition to the Conference report, Congress can take swift action to protect those most vulnerable to Zika."

An amendment on Zika from U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles), meanwhile, failed with a 20-29 committee vote. It would have stricken a funding cap of \$461 million on bilateral family planning and created a funding floor of \$585 million to administer anti-Zika programs.

"I am deeply disappointed that House Republicans rejected this amendment and have decided to turn their back on thousands of men and women struggling through this crisis," Rep. Ryan said.

**Abortions:** Rep. Gibbs applauded the House passage of legislation aimed at protecting health care professionals who refuse to participate in providing abortions.

The lawmaker supported the bill, saying it protects the religious freedom of those professionals.

"The House's vote today gives those willing to exercise their beliefs the option of using the court system if their employment is in jeopardy, instead of being at the mercy of a government bureaucracy," he said. "It is critical that we not only protect the unborn, but protect those whose livelihoods may be at stake for providing that protection."

**Trade:** An amendment from Rep. Ryan that would require an impact analysis on free trade agreements on wages and the demand for educator workers passed a House committee this week by voice vote.

The amendment is to a measure that would require the Bureau of Labor Statistics to submit a report on the impact of such agreements on the American workforce.

"All that you need to do is look at the shuttered factories and shattered communities across Ohio to see the devastating affect free trade agreements have had across our country," he said. "I am proud that my amendment passed and we will soon be able to know the true cost of these deals to our nation," Mr. Ryan said.



**Israel:** Sen. Portman and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) released a bipartisan report from the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations examining government grants to OneVoice, which is a non-governmental organization in Israel and Palestine.

The report examines the nearly \$350,000 in grants received from the State Department to foster peace between the two counties. The report determined the NGO complied with the department's terms but shortly after the terms expired used the funds to support a political campaign.

"The State Department ignored warnings signs and funded a politically active group in a politically sensitive environment with inadequate safeguards," Sen. Portman said. "It is completely unacceptable that U.S. taxpayer dollars were used to build a political campaign infrastructure that was deployed - immediately after the grant ended - against the leader of our closest ally in the Middle East. American resources should be used to help our allies in the region, not undermine them."

**SNAP:** Rep. Ryan this week sought to push for increased digital access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

"If we continue on our current trajectory, we will have an adult obesity rate of 60% within 15 years," he said. "In a country, where 23.5 million people live in food deserts, we cannot allow the status quo to continue and must find new ways for all Americans to have access to fresh, healthy food."

### **Gongwer's Ohio Convention Coverage**

Gongwer News Service's planned coverage of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland next week will include regular updates to the website during the day.

Significant breaking news will be distributed through email alerts but subscribers can check the website throughout each day of the convention for updates focusing on activities of the Ohio delegation and other events.

Subscribers may also follow reporter Mikel Livingston and Gongwer on Twitter for links to those updates on our website. Mike's account is @mikellivingston and the main account is @gongwer.

### **Attorney General's Opinion**

No. 2016-023, Requested by Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney Gregg Marx.  
SYLLABUS:

1. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by Violet Township may provide medical services in nonemergency situations pursuant to R.C. 4765.361, so long as the medical services are performed under the direction of the emergency medical technician's medical director or cooperating physician advisory

board, are within the scope of practice of the emergency medical technician, and do not conflict with the emergency medical services described in R.C. 4765.37, R.C. 4765.38, R.C. 4765.39, and the rules adopted by the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services.

2. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township is immune from civil liability for injury, death, or loss to person or property resulting from the provision of medical services in a nonemergency situation unless the services are provided in a manner that constitutes wanton or willful misconduct, the services are manifestly outside the scope of the emergency medical technician's employment, or the services are performed with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner.

3. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township may not provide medical services on a routine, day-to-day basis outside the boundaries of the township when revenue from a township tax levy pays the emergency medical technician's compensation, unless the township has entered into a contract with another political subdivision pursuant to R.C. 9.60 or R.C. 505.44, or the township provides the medical services to the territory of another township or municipal corporation as a member of a joint fire district pursuant to R.C. 505.371, a fire and ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.375, or a joint ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.71.

4. A board of township trustees may establish reasonable charges for the use of medical services that are provided by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township in nonemergency situations and may collect those charges from a private hospital system that agrees to pay those charges on behalf of the recipient of the medical services.

5. A board of township trustees may contract with a private hospital system to provide medical services in nonemergency situations by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township to patients of the hospital who are residents and nonresidents of the township, so long as the private hospital system is a nonprofit corporation and the medical services are performed within the territory of the township.

6. A contract between the Violet Township Board of Trustees and a private hospital system for the provision of medical services in nonemergency situations may provide that the private hospital system will pay the township a sum of money for each visit performed by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic pursuant to the contract and that emergency medical technicians will provide medical services in nonemergency situations during the emergency medical technicians' regular work hours.

## **Supplemental Agency Calendar**

**Wednesday, July 20**

Rail Development Commission, 1980 West Broad Street, Rm. GA, Columbus, 11 a.m.

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 3 p.m. (Dropout Prevention and Recovery Study Committee)

**Thursday, July 21**

Board of Building Standards, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 9 a.m. (Code Committee)

Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission, Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

## **Supplemental Event Planner**

**Saturday, July 16**

Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 27**

Beginning of Ohio State Fair

**Sunday, August 7**

End of Ohio State Fair

**Sunday, October 2**

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fall fest fundraiser, Peterson Farm, 5564 Grassy Branch Rd., Sabina, 4 p.m., (\$50 per Family | \$25 per Person to Peterson for Good Government)

**Thursday, October 20**

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (\$1000 Event Sponsor, includes up to 6 participants; \$500 Lane Sponsor, includes up to 4 participants; \$150 per couple | \$100 per person | \$50 Dinner only to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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## **Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, July 16-Monday, July 18**

### **Legislative Committees**

No legislative committees scheduled.

### **Agency Calendar**

No agency meetings scheduled.

### **Event Planner**

#### **Saturday, July 16**

Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention luncheon, Westin, 21 E. Fifth St., Cincinnati, 11:30 a.m., (Featuring U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee)  
Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.  
Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention dinner gala, Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati, 7:30 p.m., (Featuring Vernon Jordan)

#### **Monday, July 18**

#### **Republican National Convention, Cleveland**

17 S. High St., Suite 630  
Columbus Ohio 43215  
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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## **Ohio Report for Friday, July 15, 2016**

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ECOT Debate Becomes Campaign Fodder In State Senate Race

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Campus Culture Survey Results To Inform Continued Sexual Violence Prevention, Response Efforts

Becker Defends Right-To-Work Bill For Public Sector, Acknowledges Its Passage Is A Longshot

Education Notes: ECOT Defends Decision To Withhold Log-In Data; Antioch Receives Accreditation; Lawmaker Urges Standards Feedback

Court Briefs: Dems File Brief In = 2Golden Week' Case; 1851 Center Seeks To Stop Eminent Domain For Pipeline; Judicial College Employee Honored

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**Volume #85, Report #136 -- Friday, July 15, 2016**

**Timeline For Energy Freeze Action Unclear, Says Senate No. 2**

A Senate leader said lawmakers may not act on the soon-to-end freeze on renewable energy and energy efficiency standards until sometime next year.

Sen. Larry Obhof (R-Medina), the Senate's president pro tem and likely next chamber leader, said in an interview this week he advocates for an "all the above approach" to rethinking the mandates that were frozen in 2014 and are set to kick back in at the end of this year without legislative action.

But such an undertaking might not be easier considering the limited number of session days scheduled this fall, he said. The Senate is scheduled to return in late September with at most 21 days set for work in committees, and much fewer days anticipated for full sessions. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 1, 2016) The House, meanwhile, is set to reconvene after the November election with at most eight full session days.

"I think that's a pretty big issue and if there's not that many session days it remains to be seen whether that'll be tackled in that amount of time," Sen. Obhof said. "I definitely think moving forward whether it's at the end of this year or at the beginning of the next General Assembly we need to come up with a comprehensive and consistent policy on energy."

By not acting by Dec. 31, the freeze would thaw, allowing the standards to kick back into effect, which Republicans argue could harm Ohio considering lingering uncertainty over the federal Clean Power Plan and other unknowns. Proponents of the standards say any effort to extend the freeze or lower the standards would take the state backward.

There are currently three bills pending in either chamber with different approaches. A bill from Sen. Bill Seitz (SB 320) would extend the freeze until 2019, while a bill from Rep. Ron Amstutz (HB 554) would extend the freeze indefinitely. A third bill (SB 325), from Sen. Kris Jordan, would abolish the mandates completely. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 11, 2016)

If none of those bills pass by the end of the 131<sup>st</sup> General Assembly, the legislative slate will be wiped clean and a new bill would need to be authored to tackle the issue next year.

Sen. Obhof said that even if lawmakers act on the freeze, he believes more comprehensive action would be needed in the next General Assembly.

"I think there will be some kind of action in the next 12 to 18 months regardless of whether the freeze is extended or not," Sen. Obhof said. "I don't know if there is any



science supporting the current numbers and mandates in law. I think we need to have a fact-based approach, one that has room for all the natural resources available."

The pending end of the freeze is one of the reasons cited by Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) as a reason for more Republican scrutiny of Gov. John Kasich's recent appointee to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Democratic attorney Howard Petricoff on Tuesday faced his first hearing before the Sen. Seitz's Senate Public Utilities Committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 12, 2016)

"I believe we're at a unique crossroads caused by a fairly simultaneous convergence of numerous complex issues," Sen. Seitz said. "I think we all need to make an effort to understand each other on these issues and of course no one is more central to that vortex than the five members of the PUCO."

Other uncertainties he cited include ongoing rehearings of proposed Power Purchase Agreements from AEP and FirstEnergy, the departure of former PUCO Chairman Andre Porter, and the ongoing federal court case over the legality of the Clean Power Plan.

### **ECOT Debate Becomes Campaign Fodder In State Senate Race**

In one of the first significant rhetorical volleys in this legislative campaign cycle, the rising controversy over funding and student attendance at the state's largest online charter school is a point of contention in the race for the open 16<sup>th</sup> Senate District.

Democrat Cathy Johnson, a teacher looking to upset favored Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) in the right-leaning western Franklin County seat, fired the initial salvo this week in criticizing the Republican over issues related to the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow.

Her criticisms were dismissed by Sen. Dave Burke (R-Marysville), chairman of the Republican Senate Campaign Committee, who described the Democrat's statements as "misguided to say the least" and defended the Republican's positions on and support for education.

The race for the seat being vacated by Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) is one of only a handful in the Senate this year that's expected to be even marginally competitive thanks to the GOP-led reapportionment process. It has trended Republican for several years, but Democrats are hoping that with a polarizing candidate atop the GOP ticket they can make hay in legislative races this fall.

ECOT is currently locked in a legal battle with the Ohio Department of Education over attendance records, with a looming audit having the potential to strip millions of funding from the online charter founded by Bill Lager. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 11, 2016)

Ms. Johnson in a campaign release "announced her support" for ODE's attempts to examine ECOT's records and said Rep. Kunze voted "against measures to hold e-

schools accountable in 2015" and "has accepted \$33,000 from ECOT's founder, Bill Lager, over the past four years."

"As a mother, teacher and taxpayer, I am astonished by the deceptive tactics of this taxpayer-funded e-school," Ms. Johnson said. "It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance."

The Democrat said Ms. Kunze "voted with Republicans to block amendments that would have required annual audits for charter school operators, clarified that records of all charter school operators are public records and given the public more access to information on charter school board members and meeting times."

"It's disappointing that Representative Kunze refused to stand up for Ohio's students and taxpayers by holding ECOT accountable when she had the chance," Ms. Johnson added. "Instead, she chose to accept donations from ECOT's founder. We need a State Senator who is dedicated to fighting for students and families. Anyone can say yes to special interests with deep pockets."

Sen. Burke questioned the focus of Ms. Johnson's assertions, saying Rep. Kunze has a record that belies such criticisms.

"Stephanie Kunze has a record of supporting both public education and parent choice," he said. "I would also say that both traditional public education and charter schools and ECOT schools, etc. are all in need of improvement beyond a shadow of a doubt and that is what we're working on."

To that end, Sen. Burke said, Ms. Kunze was a cosponsor of HB 2, which he described as "the largest reform bill dealing with non-traditional public schools." As the legislature continues to look for improvements to all kinds of public schools, he added, "she is obviously supportive of that."

"I would say, unlike Ms. Johnson's statement, that rather than have a singular source of education, that Stephanie believes parents should have a choice. The competition within that market drives improvement, so in order for public schools to get better, parents should have a choice."

The Republican said some of the tabled budget amendments the Democrat is apparently referring to "would have basically eliminated parent choice."

Sen. Burke also pushed back on the suggestion of a quid pro quo involving campaign donations.

"I imagine Stephanie Kunze, like me, accepts money from a lot of people," he said. "I've taken money from Bill Lager. I also was a direct cosponsor of (Sen. Peggy Lehner's) bill to reform ECOT and charter schools from day one."

"I guess the inverse question there would be, 'If the (Ohio Education Association) paid money to Stephanie Kunze, do you think she'd change?' I'm guessing probably not."

The debate over ECOT escalated considerably in recent weeks as ODE moved forward with plans to review the schools attendance records. In the latest twist, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported Thursday that ECOT is refusing to release some of the requested data.

As election season progresses, Democrats have increasingly pointed to the majority GOP's ties to ECOT, which has been at the forefront of the Republican-led expansion of the charter industry in the state.

Carrying forward the support of his predecessor, Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) spoke at this year's ECOT graduation ceremony, which in the past has been attended by other prominent Republican officeholders.

The Ohio Democratic Party recently called for a moratorium on state funding to ECOT and a larger investigation into the state's charter school system, stating: "Last year as the Ohio General Assembly considered a bill to reform charter schools, Lager gave nearly \$150,000 to 21 Ohio Republican legislators over the course of two months."

#### **RNC Update: Trump Confirms Pence As VP Pick; 'Never Trump' Efforts Fail...**

Donald Trump on Friday became the first presumptive nominee to announce his vice presidential pick via Twitter.

As expected, Mr. Trump confirmed he has tabbed Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as his running mate in a tweet shortly before 11 a.m.

Mr. Trump had previously announced he was postponing the New York City press conference where he was expected to make the announcement following a mass killing in Nice, France.

But Gov. Pence faced a noon deadline Friday by which to withdraw from his gubernatorial reelection bid in order for the Indiana Republican Party to name a replacement candidate, meaning the news would have been confirmed then even without an announcement from the Trump campaign.

The formal news conference will now take place at 11 a.m. Saturday in New Jersey.

Word broke Thursday that the first term Indiana governor and former congressman was to be Mr. Trump's No. 2.

Gov. Pence has been engaged in a gubernatorial rematch with Democrat John Gregg - a race that's taken on a new element of competitiveness following Republican discontent over Mr. Pence's handling of last year's so-called Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Mr. Pence, well thought of in religious conservative circles, is seen as an attempt by Mr. Trump to appeal to that voter bloc and to create inroads with Congress, where Gov. Pence served from 2001-2013.

The campaign of DNC presumptive nominee Hillary Clinton immediately blasted the pick in a statement, calling it the "most extreme VP pick in a generation."

Clinton campaign Chairman John Podesta criticized the governor for defunding Planned Parenthood, advocating early on for the Tea Party movement, and signing a religious freedom law that opponents say legalized discrimination against LGBT citizens.

"By picking Mike Pence as his running mate, Donald Trump has doubled down on some of his most disturbing beliefs by choosing an incredibly divisive and unpopular running mate known for supporting discriminatory politics and failed economic policies that favor millionaires and corporations over working families," Mr. Podesta said.

The campaign then promptly organized a media call featuring allied groups criticizing the Republican ticket.

**Rules Committee:** GOP leaders and Trump loyalists thwarted plans to undermine Mr. Trump's candidacy during a closely watched RNC Rules Committee meeting Thursday.

The morning meeting was delayed several hours while party leaders attempted to negotiate with members of the "Never Trump" movement, but talks soon fell apart. Those members had hoped to change rules to permit delegates to vote their conscience, thereby freeing bound delegates to vote against Mr. Trump on the first ballot.

But as the day wore on it became clear the anti-Trump contingent had too little support for success and lacked the required votes to create a minority report that would have ensured debate on the issue before the full convention next week. Amendment author Kendal Unruh said she would still attempt to earn the required 28 signatures for a minority report.

Following much debate, delegates also shot down a proposed amendment that would have barred lobbyists from being members of the RNC - a change Ohio delegate and lobbyist JoAnn Davidson strongly criticized in remarks before the body.

The committee, which had planned to meet Friday, eventually finished the agenda late Thursday and adjourned. The rules package will be sent to the full convention Monday for consideration.

RNC Chairman Reince Priebus said the meeting "made clear the high level of unity within our Party."

"Grassroots voices from every state and territory have crafted a set of rules which will keep our party strong at the local, state, and national level, and we honored the spirit of democracy by conducting our Rules Committee meeting in a completely open and transparent fashion," he said.

**Schedule:** The RNC had not yet released an official schedule of events for convention week in Cleveland as of midday Friday, just two days before the RNC is schedule to kickoff.

But Ohio leaders and others have already announced a slew of ancillary events timed to capitalize on the convention crowd.

The Ohio Republican Party will host daily 8 a.m. breakfasts featuring Treasurer Josh Mandel and U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton (Monday); U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson and Frank Luntz (Tuesday); U.S. Rep. Pat Tiberi and House Speaker Paul Ryan (Wednesday); and Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi (Thursday).

The ORP already announced a 3:30 p.m. Tuesday event at the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame to honor Gov. John Kasich.

A sampling of other events during the course of the week includes:

- Sunday - a "Taste of Little Italy" event featuring Attorney General Mike DeWine at 3 p.m. at Tony Brush Park
- Monday - a 3 p.m. campaign event in which Sen. Rob Portman, former Speaker Newt Gingrich and Sen. Joni Ernst will address Sen. Portman volunteers at the Tri-C Metropolitan Campus
- Tuesday, a 10:15 a.m. reception for media members with Sen. Rob Portman; and 11 a.m. welcome tea hosted by the Ohio Federation of Republican Women at the Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square featuring U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.)

A partial list of convention speakers was officially released Thursday, although the time and dates of the speeches have yet to be announced by the RNC.

In contrast, the Democratic National Convention Committee announced Friday the headline speakers for the DNC in Philadelphia later this month. They include First Lady Michelle Obama and Sen. Bernie Sanders July 25, President Bill Clinton July 26, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden July 27, and Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton July 28.

A series of musical acts will perform each day of the RNC at Freedom Plaza, which will also include drinks and food. For a complete list, visit the RNC's website. An evening

concert, featuring a variety of "American Idol" and "The Voice" winners will take place at 11 p.m. Tuesday at Gray's Armory.

The Clinton campaign and the DNC, meanwhile, are organizing their own counter events in Cleveland with a slew of press conferences and conference calls aimed at undercutting the RNC. Former Gov. Ted Strickland and the Ohio Democratic Party will also ramp up their attacks on U.S. Sen. Rob Portman as they seek to link him to Mr. Trump.

Other groups have scheduled their own events to criticize Republicans. The Ohio AFL-CIO is set to "welcome" Republicans to the city during a 2 p.m. Sunday event featuring former Gov. Ted Strickland at the Laborers' Local 310 Hall.

ProgressOhio has created a calendar of counter events that includes a "Daily Show" convention sideshow, League of Women Voters voter registration drives, and daily nonviolence training for protestors.

**Bob Bennett:** The City of Cleveland granted a secondary street name to the intersection of Ontario Street and Huron Road for the duration of the convention. The intersection will be known as Bob Bennett Way in honor of former ORP chairman.

"More than any one person, Bob Bennett steadfastly sought to bring the Convention to Cleveland," Ohio Republican Party Chairman Matt Borges said. "We are sad that he is not here to see the world spotlight on Cleveland, but grateful to the Mayor's office for honoring him in this way so that we can acknowledge his contribution to this week."

**Tourism:** With the RNC expected to draw 50,000 people to Cleveland, TourismOhio is rolling out all the stops to showcase Ohio, according to a press release.

The group is launching a 360 degree "virtual reality experience" during the convention, to capitalize on visitors and showcase various Ohio hotspots.

The experience will be hosted in a 40-passenger bus located outside the Quicken Loans Arena, according to the release, and will "offer a personal Ohio adventure for participants with a wide range of interests." Those not at the event can take part online.

Some of the featured items include Cedar Point, Hocking Hills, parasailing over Lake Erie, and various Cleveland attractions.

### **Campus Culture Survey Results To Inform Continued Sexual Violence Prevention, Response Efforts**

Students largely believe that their colleges and universities would seriously address sexual assault reports and take corrective action against offenders, according to their responses on surveys disseminated by all of the state's public institutions.

The surveys were an integral piece of the Changing Campus Culture initiative, which the Department of Higher Education launched last fall in an effort to encourage best practices in preventing and responding to sexual violence on campuses. (Survey Results)

Chancellor John Carey urged schools to join the voluntary effort and they responded. All of Ohio's public universities and 80% of private institutions participated in the campus climate survey that asked students to give feedback on how they think sexual assault is being handled and whether they know how to file reports.

Michelle Johnston, the University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College president who has been the face of the initiative, said she's encouraged by the swell of interest in improving sexual violence policies.

The feedback, she said, will be used to steer the other facets of the \$2-million initiative, which include developing comprehensive response policies, adopting survivor-centered responses, launching awareness campaigns and implementing comprehensive training programs.

"With 100% of our public colleges and universities completing a common survey of our students, we have a clearer picture of where we are, collectively and as unique institutions," she said in a statement. "Using this data, we will thoroughly analyze where we are now and will chart a course for where we want to be, in relation to positive and safe environments on our campuses."

Students who responded to the survey agreed, on average, that the university would take sexual assault reports seriously and would support those making the reports. The average respondent also said the university would take corrective action against offenders and would take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation.

However, students largely disagreed or were neutral with a survey statement that sexual violence is not a problem on their campuses and responses were mixed on a question of understanding institution policies for addressing complaints.

Less than one-third of students reported they don't know the contact information to get on-campus support for sexual violence despite about 13% of them saying they knew women who had been assaulted on campus.

"As I have shared many times before, numbers don't lie, and in the case of sexual violence on our campuses in Ohio, the numbers tell a story that needs a better ending," Ms. Johnston said of why the initiative was launched in October.

In addition to the aggregate data compiled by ODHE, the agency said campuses also administered more comprehensive surveys that will inform policies specific to individual institutions. All public institutions and 88% of private colleges and universities completed those surveys.

Ohio is one of few states in the country that has collected such data, according to ODHE. Much of the work to complete the surveys was done with the help of grants that were funded with a portion of the \$2 million allocated to the initiative in the biennium budget (HB 64).

The grants are also to be used to support putting best practices in place. The overall budget funding has paid for, among other things, webinars and summits to keep institutions engaged in the initiative and collaborating with one another.

"It's exciting to see Ohio dedicating state resources to collect prevalence data, support survivors and prevent sexual violence on college campuses, and partnering with the coalition and rape crisis centers," said Monika Johnson Hostler, the president of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

"It is through this strategic, long-term investment and the development of partnerships between campuses and community-based programs that we will see long-term positive change for students."

### **Becker Defends Right-To-Work Bill For Public Sector, Acknowledges Its Passage Is A Longshot**

The sponsor of public sector right-to-work legislation defends introducing the controversial measure while acknowledging it is likely dead-on-arrival.

Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) said legislation (HB 583) that would remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization is good policy that will likely not be well-received in the General Assembly.

"It's something my constituents have been demanding for a long time," he said in an interview. "I think it's good for Ohio and hopefully it will be able to move forward."

But We Are Ohio, which was formed in opposition to similar legislation designed to curtail the collective bargaining power of public sector unions, slammed the proposal, saying that workers in state with similar laws make less money and are more prone to on-the-job injuries.

"We believe right-to-work is wrong for Ohio, for working people, for all of us," spokesman Dennis Willard said in an interview.

"There is no support from working people in this state for this extreme idea."

Asked about the likelihood of the bill becoming law, Rep. Becker said he has "no reason to be optimistic."



"I have no feedback one way or the other, but based on the public comments that the governor has made and based on my feelings of what's going on in the Senate or where they might be, I'm not optimistic," he said.

Gov. John Kasich has said repeatedly that right-to-work legislation is not on his agenda in the wake of the public rebuke over similar legislation (SB5, 129<sup>th</sup> General Assembly) that was struck down by the state's voters in a labor-backed referendum.

John Fourtney, spokesman for the Senate Majority Caucus, said the measure has yet to be vetted by members. However, Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina) has spoken favorably of eliminating a requirement for union shop employees to pay union dues (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 4, 2013), but has said the support is not there among his members. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 3, 2013)

Carolyn Best, spokeswoman for Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), also said the bill will be discussed further among caucus members in the fall.

The fight over Senate Bill 5 galvanized the labor movement, and Rep. Becker acknowledged that the introduction of similar legislation could provide good political fodder for Democrats in an election year.

"I could see that being a drawback. It just gives the Democrats another talking point and a fundraising letter to send out," he said.

However, he said his measure is different from Senate Bill 5 in that it does not address collective bargaining benefits.

"It is simply an opt-out for public sector employees," he said.

Democrats and labor groups have derided right-to-work legislation for allowing those who opt out of paying union dues to still receive the benefits from negotiated terms of contracts. But Rep. Becker said those who opt-out under his legislation would no longer be protected by unions.

"If they run into some kind of trouble with management, they will not be able to look to the union," he said, adding that it is up to management to decide how to deal with the wages and benefits of non-union employees.

Critics have also said that right-to-work legislation is designed to weaken unions both financially and politically. Rep. Becker, however, also downplayed that critique.

"I wouldn't expect a mass exodus from unions if this were to be signed into law," he said. "If there were a significant exit, it would tell me that there's a problem with the unions. If the only way they can maintain their union through a captive audience then they need to be looking in the mirror."

Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper called the bill a "sneak attack on Ohio's working families for the lame duck session."

**Education Notes: ECOT Defends Decision To Withhold Log-In Data; Antioch Receives Accreditation; Lawmaker Urges Standards Feedback**

A spokesman for the state's largest online charter school is defending the school's refusal to hand over student log-in data requested by the Department of Education.

Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow is not breaking any laws by refusing the data that's at the center of a lawsuit alleging ODE will misuse that information to determine per-pupil funding, school spokesman Neil Clark said.

A Franklin County judge earlier this week denied ECOT's request for a temporary restraining order to stop ODE from moving forward with an audit until after the court rules how student attendance should be used to inform payment totals.

ODE on Monday moved forward with the attendance review, but an email from the agency's attorney to ECOT revealed that the school was refusing to turn over the log-in and log-out information for students.

The agency's attorney Douglas Cole requested access to the documents be immediately provided, but Mr. Clark said that won't be happening.

"We're saying we're not doing anything unless the court tells us to," he said in an interview.

ECOT is interpreting the judge's decision differently than ODE, he said. While it may have allowed the audit to move forward, there is no specification that the review can occur in a way that conflicts with a contract between the school and ODE

The school's lawsuit argues that ODE's decision to not provide funding for students who weren't logging in at least five hours per day is out of line with an agreement that has been in place for previous audits. That contractual agreement states that the school must offer up to 920 hours of learning opportunities - not that students must partake, Mr. Clark said.

"It's just not about did you show up today, it's far more detailed than that; it's how did you get to that 920?" he said.

ODE, meanwhile, is contending that online schools are required by state law to make daily student participation records accessible, regardless of how that information is being used. Mr. Evans said in his email a statute specifying that mandate has been in place since February.

The e-school's governing board was expected to meet Friday - mostly in executive session - to discuss the lawsuit and next steps.

**Accreditation:** Antioch College this week announced it has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

The independent college had spent the last two years pursuing accreditation after reopening in 2011. Originally founded in 1850, it closed in 2008 amid financial troubles and leaders have since been focused on building the historic institution back up.

President Tom Manley said in a video posted to YouTube that the university can now focus its attention on continuing to build a financial foundation and recruit students.

"This great result comes from the hard work of our faculty, our staff, students, our alumni who have been so incredibly supportive and the leadership of our board of trustees," he said. "It is a ringing endorsement of the quality and strength of the education that Antioch college can now offer, and it is a vote of confidence in our ability to offer than education for years to come. "

The commission's decision is retroactive, meaning the recent graduates in the class of 2016 will receive diplomas from an accredited institution, Antioch reported.

**Standards Revisions:** Rep. Jack Cera is urging educators and the public to provide feedback on proposed revisions to English and math standards.

The Bellaire Democrat said his constituents have shared frustration with the current common core standards, known as Ohio's Learning Standards, and now is the time to recommend changes.

Through 5 p.m. Aug. 1, ODE is accepting public comments on the proposed revisions that were drafted in response to the work of a task force and an earlier public survey.

"I wanted to take the time to share this opportunity with the people of the 96th District because I have received many questions from teachers, parents and administrators about the education department's new revisions," he said. "This is a perfect opportunity for parents to get involved in the process and voice their questions, comments and concerns with those who create these standards directly."

**Court Briefs: Dems File Brief In 'Golden Week' Case; 1851 Center Seeks To Stop Eminent Domain For Pipeline; Judicial College Employee Honored**

The Ohio Democratic Party has thrown its weight behind an effort to ensure that unregistered voters have a small window prior to the presidential election to register and cast a ballot on the same day.

In a brief filed with U.S. Sixth District Court of Appeals, the party asks the court to uphold a lower court ruling that found the elimination of "Golden Week" to be a violation of the Voting Rights Act.

"Jon Husted and Mike DeWine continue to waste time and money in court, ignoring the Constitution and clear precedent while attempting to make it harder to vote," Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper said in a statement.

"In their appeal, Husted and DeWine blatantly disregard the fact that eliminating an additional week of early voting and same-day registration disproportionately impacted African-American voters. The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

In his ruling, U.S. District Court Judge Michael Watson found that the elimination of Golden Week disproportionately impacted black voters in Ohio. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

In a separate decision, Judge Watson denied a request to stay the ruling for the November presidential election while the decision is appealed.

ODP is now accusing Secretary of State Jon Husted of failing to heed the ruling by not providing accurate information for voters about the start of early voting on his office's website.

"Jon Husted has a long history of blatantly ignoring court decisions that have rebuked his attacks on Ohioans' voting rights, and his refusal, once again, to provide accurate information about early voting is plainly designed to mislead Ohioans about their voting rights," Mr. Pepper said.

"If he won't relent and update the misleading information his office is providing, we will take action to ensure he follows the court order restoring 'Golden Week.' The Ohio Democratic Party will always fight to protect the fundamental right to vote for all eligible citizens."

Husted spokesman Josh Eck said the website won't be changed while the case is under appeal.

"The ruling was stayed for the upcoming August Special Election and is currently on appeal ahead of the November election. It would be irresponsible for the Secretary to begin advertising changes that may very well have to undergo further changes before the General Election, as they did in 2012," he said.

"Secretary Husted is committed to making sure all voters know the rules and can participate and we welcome others to join us in pursuing clarity over chaos."

**Eminent Domain:** The 1851 Center for Constitutional Law has asked the Wood County Common Pleas Court to dismiss more than a dozen eminent domain cases filed by a Texas pipeline company.

The group said in a court filing that Kinder Morgan's eminent domain action against 15 families in the Bowling Green area violates Ohio's constitution because the project for which it is seeking the land is not a "public necessity."

The land would be used for the "Utopia Pipeline," a private ethane pipeline running underground to a Canadian plastics factory.

"Imagine that a private sector lawyer desired to get to the Wood County Court of Common Pleas faster. Could he forcibly appropriate others' private land along the route, from his front door step to the court's parking lot to build a personal road, with no on-ramps or exits, and twenty foot walls on either side, just to represent one very wealthy client who anticipated routinely using his services?" the filing reads.

"If the answer is 'no,' then it must be here as well. And it is 'no,' because no such road would be a public use, even if the lawyer appealed to the public interest in 'justice' and 'market demand for lawyers.'"

Maurice Thompson, the group's executive director, said in a statement the proposed eminent domain action is "redistribution of wealth of the worst sort."

"The abuse along the Utopia Pipeline is a prime example of what can happen when legislators attempt to auction off Ohioans' property rights to the highest bidder," he said. "Ultimately, the Ohio Constitution prevents this abuse, and we will prevail in court. But statutes inviting this sort of behavior should be amended or repealed."

**Honor:** A long-time employee of the Ohio Judicial College has been nationally recognized for his work, the high court reported.

Kristopher Steele, an education program manager, received the 2016 Perkins Award from the National Association for Court Management

"It's because of employees like Kristopher that the Supreme Court has an outstanding reputation nationally," Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor said in a statement. "I have received multiple compliments about the Judicial College programs and our staff from my colleagues when attending national meetings."

"I am honored to win this award and will accept it on behalf of all the other dedicated personnel working behind the scenes at courts to help improve services to their communities," Mr. Steele said.

**Agency Briefs: AG's Office Doles Out Funding To Rape Crisis Centers; BWC; SOS; ODNR; PUCO; Senate**

Attorney General Mike DeWine on Friday announced that 29 rape crisis centers across the state will receive more than \$1.4 million in grant funding.

"We owe it to survivors of sexual assault to make sure they receive comprehensive support after an attack," AG DeWine said. "These funds will go toward helping agencies across the state to provide quality, compassionate care to those who need it."

The following 28 agencies will all receive \$45,803:

- Abuse and Rape Crisis Center of Warren County
- Alive, Inc., Steubenville
- Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, Ashland
- Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Stark County
- Compass Rape Crisis Center, Tuscarawas County
- Compass Family and Community Services, Youngstown
- Council on Domestic Violence/Open Arms, Findlay
- Crime Victim Services, Lima
- Edna Brooks Foundation/My Sister's Place, Athens
- Erie County Prosecutor
- Eve, Inc., Marietta
- Haven of Hope, Cambridge
- Helpline of Delaware and Morrow Counties
- Highland County Domestic Violence Task Force
- Lake County Prosecutor
- New Directions, Mt. Vernon
- OneEighty, Wayne County

- Project Woman, Springfield
- Rape Crisis Center of Medina and Summit Counties
- Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio
- The Cocoon, Bowling Green
- The Domestic Violence Shelter, Mansfield
- The Nord Center, Lorain
- Townhall II, Kent
- Tri-County Help Center, St. Clairsville
- Women Helping Women, Cincinnati
- YWCA of Northwest Ohio, Toledo

Another \$142,500 will be distributed to the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

**BWC:** As the Bureau of Workers' Compensation transitions to prospective billing, it is asking private employers to report their actual payroll for the policy year ended June 30 and to reconcile any differences in premium paid prior to the closure of the "True-up" window on Aug. 15.

Employers will be removed from their current rating plan or discount program if it BWC does not receive a payroll true-up by the due date. Outstanding payroll true-ups will render the employer ineligible for participation in future rating plans or discount programs until all outstanding payroll true-ups are complete.

"This step is an important part of BWC's ongoing efforts to modernize operations and provide better service to Ohio's employers," BWC Administrator/CEO Sarah Morrison said in a statement. "It's also necessary for BWC to accurately calculate an employer's premium and for employers to maintain their participation in current rating plan or discount programs."

The transition, according to BWC, has allowed it to reduce base rates and offer employers more flexible payment options and the ability to better forecast their costs.

True-ups can be completed online and if done through the web qualifies eligible employers for a 1% premium rebate, up to a \$2,000 maximum.

The payroll true-up may also be completed through the call center at 1-800-644-6292.

**Secretary of State:** Jon Husted announced 8,480 new state business filings in June. The figure represents an increase over the same period on 2015, when 8,151 entities were formed.

June was again a record setting month for business filing; 4,300 more entities have filed so far in 2016 than at the same point in 2015.

New filings increased 21.8% from 2010-2015.

**Department of Natural Resources:** A total of 2,192 permits have been issued for drilling on the Utica Shale as of July 9, according to data from the Division of Oil and Gas Resources.

A total of 1,756 wells have been drilled, and 1,334 wells are in production, according to the ODNR.

The department also announced that Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor attended the opening ceremonies for the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation National Championship at the Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo.

**PUCO:** The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is remind consumers that that they may be eligible for budget billing.

The program, offered by Ohio's regulated electric and natural gas distribution companies, allows consumers to avoid spikes in billion in the summer and winter months.

**General Assembly:** Legislative staff and members of the Senate collected more than 33,000 pounds of canned food for the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

The internal food drive also generated \$3,000 in donations, which will provide 39,500 meals to local residents.

#### **From Congress: Brown, Portman Applaud U.S. Attorney Confirmation; Kaptur Applauds Funding Awards; Gibbs; Ryan**

Ohio's senators this week applauded the confirmation of Carole Rendon as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) recommended Ms. Rendon, a former first assistant U.S. attorney, for the post last month.

"No one is more qualified to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District than Carole Rendon," Sen. Brown said in a statement. "Now that she is confirmed she can continue her work on behalf of Ohioans."



Sen. Portman said, "Carole Rendon is a proud Ohioan, an accomplished lawyer, and a dedicated public servant. She has already served Ohio with distinction for seven years, and I'm pleased that she will continue as U.S. Attorney for Northern Ohio. I am grateful to my colleagues for making the right decision and confirming her nomination."

**Border:** Sen. Brown urged customs and border protection to launch an investigation into produce made using child and forced labor.

Joining with Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), he wrote to CBP Commissioner Gil Kerlikowske decrying a loophole that allows some of those products into the country if there is not a sufficient supply.

"We urge you to continue that dialogue with regular meetings between NGOs, as well as other stakeholders, and CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the State Department, and the Department of Labor and a meeting in the very near term to discuss issues related to regulations. Increased communication will lead to more successful petitions and better enforcement against forced labor imports," the senators wrote.

**Funding:** U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) applauded several instances of new funding awarded to her district this week.

First she welcomed news of a \$700 million retooling of Toledo's Jeep North Assembly Plant.

The project, which will equip the plant for production of the next generation of Jeep Wrangler, was announced this week by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and promises 700 new jobs.

"This is almost beyond belief, given where we were eight short years ago," Rep. Kaptur said. "For seventy-five years Toledans have manufactured Wranglers. FCA's investment today will ensure this legacy remains for years to come."

The Cleveland Hopkins International Airport will also receive \$22.1 million in federal funds for improvements including safety upgrades and new snow removal equipment.

Lastly, Rep. Kaptur announced the award of a \$3.1 million grant to the Lorain Fire Department and the city of Lorain aimed at addressing a staffing crisis.

The funds, from FEMA's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program, aim to fix the fallout of the recent layoffs of 22 members of the city's fire department.

"This is obviously great news," Rep. Kaptur said. "Credit should go to the Lorain firefighters, who have actively organized in recent weeks and made their case effectively and persuasively, and to Lorain Mayor Chase Ritenauer and Lorain Fire Chief Tom Brown. Their diligence in helping to find a solution brought about this two-year solution to an immediate problem."

**Zika:** U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs and colleagues urged President Barack Obama to expand protections against the Zika virus. The Obama Administration has opposed a resolution that would permit mosquito control programs to implement control plans without duplicative permits, Rep. Gibbs said.

"I want to know why it is acceptable for Puerto Rico to increase their defense against Zika, but not the rest of the United States?" Rep. Gibbs asked in a statement. "All Americans should be protected against the spread of Zika and I encourage the president to change his mind and allow the increased use of live-saving pesticides and give pregnant women safety from this terrible illness. If the President ends his opposition to the Conference report, Congress can take swift action to protect those most vulnerable to Zika."

An amendment on Zika from U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles), meanwhile, failed with a 20-29 committee vote. It would have stricken a funding cap of \$461 million on bilateral family planning and created a funding floor of \$585 million to administer anti-Zika programs.

"I am deeply disappointed that House Republicans rejected this amendment and have decided to turn their back on thousands of men and women struggling through this crisis," Rep. Ryan said.

**Abortions:** Rep. Gibbs applauded the House passage of legislation aimed at protecting health care professionals who refuse to participate in providing abortions.

The lawmaker supported the bill, saying it protects the religious freedom of those professionals.

"The House's vote today gives those willing to exercise their beliefs the option of using the court system if their employment is in jeopardy, instead of being at the mercy of a government bureaucracy," he said. "It is critical that we not only protect the unborn, but protect those whose livelihoods may be at stake for providing that protection."

**Trade:** An amendment from Rep. Ryan that would require an impact analysis on free trade agreements on wages and the demand for educator workers passed a House committee this week by voice vote.

The amendment is to a measure that would require the Bureau of Labor Statistics to submit a report on the impact of such agreements on the American workforce.

"All that you need to do is look at the shuttered factories and shattered communities across Ohio to see the devastating affect free trade agreements have had across our country," he said. "I am proud that my amendment passed and we will soon be able to know the true cost of these deals to our nation," Mr. Ryan said.

**Israel:** Sen. Portman and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) released a bipartisan report from the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations examining government grants to OneVoice, which is a non-governmental organization in Israel and Palestine.

The report examines the nearly \$350,000 in grants received from the State Department to foster peace between the two counties. The report determined the NGO complied with the department's terms but shortly after the terms expired used the funds to support a political campaign.

"The State Department ignored warnings signs and funded a politically active group in a politically sensitive environment with inadequate safeguards," Sen. Portman said. "It is completely unacceptable that U.S. taxpayer dollars were used to build a political campaign infrastructure that was deployed - immediately after the grant ended - against the leader of our closest ally in the Middle East. American resources should be used to help our allies in the region, not undermine them."

**SNAP:** Rep. Ryan this week sought to push for increased digital access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

"If we continue on our current trajectory, we will have an adult obesity rate of 60% within 15 years," he said. "In a country, where 23.5 million people live in food deserts, we cannot allow the status quo to continue and must find new ways for all Americans to have access to fresh, healthy food."

### **Gongwer's Ohio Convention Coverage**

Gongwer News Service's planned coverage of the Republican National Convention in Cleveland next week will include regular updates to the website during the day.

Significant breaking news will be distributed through email alerts but subscribers can check the website throughout each day of the convention for updates focusing on activities of the Ohio delegation and other events.

Subscribers may also follow reporter Mikel Livingston and Gongwer on Twitter for links to those updates on our website. Mike's account is @mikellivingston and the main account is @gongwer.

### **Attorney General's Opinion**

No. 2016-023, Requested by Fairfield County Prosecuting Attorney Gregg Marx.  
SYLLABUS:

1. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by Violet Township may provide medical services in nonemergency situations pursuant to R.C. 4765.361, so long as the medical services are performed under the direction of the emergency medical technician's medical director or cooperating physician advisory

board, are within the scope of practice of the emergency medical technician, and do not conflict with the emergency medical services described in R.C. 4765.37, R.C. 4765.38, R.C. 4765.39, and the rules adopted by the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services.

2. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township is immune from civil liability for injury, death, or loss to person or property resulting from the provision of medical services in a nonemergency situation unless the services are provided in a manner that constitutes wanton or willful misconduct, the services are manifestly outside the scope of the emergency medical technician's employment, or the services are performed with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton or reckless manner.

3. An emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by a township may not provide medical services on a routine, day-to-day basis outside the boundaries of the township when revenue from a township tax levy pays the emergency medical technician's compensation, unless the township has entered into a contract with another political subdivision pursuant to R.C. 9.60 or R.C. 505.44, or the township provides the medical services to the territory of another township or municipal corporation as a member of a joint fire district pursuant to R.C. 505.371, a fire and ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.375, or a joint ambulance district pursuant to R.C. 505.71.

4. A board of township trustees may establish reasonable charges for the use of medical services that are provided by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township in nonemergency situations and may collect those charges from a private hospital system that agrees to pay those charges on behalf of the recipient of the medical services.

5. A board of township trustees may contract with a private hospital system to provide medical services in nonemergency situations by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic employed by the township to patients of the hospital who are residents and nonresidents of the township, so long as the private hospital system is a nonprofit corporation and the medical services are performed within the territory of the township.

6. A contract between the Violet Township Board of Trustees and a private hospital system for the provision of medical services in nonemergency situations may provide that the private hospital system will pay the township a sum of money for each visit performed by an emergency medical technician-basic, an emergency medical technician-intermediate, and an emergency medical technician-paramedic pursuant to the contract and that emergency medical technicians will provide medical services in nonemergency situations during the emergency medical technicians' regular work hours.

## **Supplemental Agency Calendar**

**Wednesday, July 20**

Rail Development Commission, 1980 West Broad Street, Rm. GA, Columbus, 11 a.m.

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 3 p.m. (Dropout Prevention and Recovery Study Committee)

**Thursday, July 21**

Board of Building Standards, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 9 a.m. (Code Committee)

Cemetery Dispute Resolution Commission, Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

## **Supplemental Event Planner**

**Saturday, July 16**

Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 27**

Beginning of Ohio State Fair

**Sunday, August 7**

End of Ohio State Fair

**Sunday, October 2**

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) fall fest fundraiser, Peterson Farm, 5564 Grassy Branch Rd., Sabina, 4 p.m., (\$50 per Family | \$25 per Person to Peterson for Good Government)

**Thursday, October 20**

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) shooting fundraiser, Vandalia Range and Armory, 100 Corp Center Drive, Vandalia, 5:30 p.m., (\$1000 Event Sponsor, includes up to 6 participants; \$500 Lane Sponsor, includes up to 4 participants; \$150 per couple | \$100 per person | \$50 Dinner only to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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## **Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, July 16-Monday, July 18**

### **Legislative Committees**

No legislative committees scheduled.

### **Agency Calendar**

No agency meetings scheduled.

### **Event Planner**

#### **Saturday, July 16**

Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention luncheon, Westin, 21 E. Fifth St., Cincinnati, 11:30 a.m., (Featuring U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee)

Gov. John Kasich to speak at 107th NAACP Convention, Duke Energy Convention Center, Hall A, 525 Elm St., Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.

Ohio Legislative Black Caucus 2016 convention dinner gala, Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati, 7:30 p.m., (Featuring Vernon Jordan)

#### **Monday, July 18**

#### **Republican National Convention, Cleveland**

17 S. High St., Suite 630

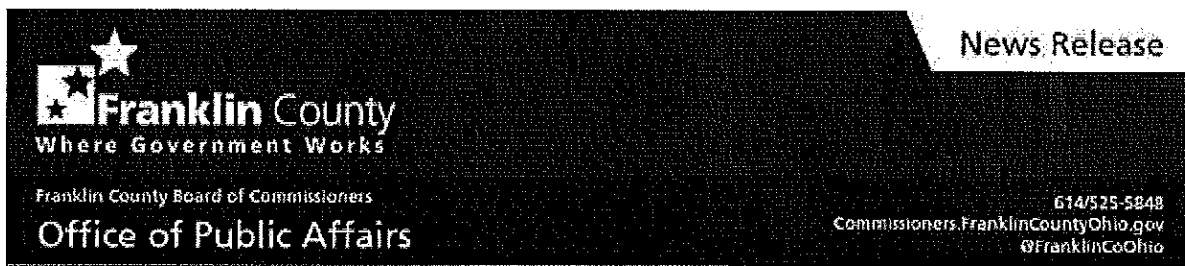
Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer-oh.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer-oh.com)

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**From:** Office of Public Affairs  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 7, 2016 7:02 AM  
**To:** Derksen, Nick  
**Subject:** NEWS: COMMISSIONERS ANNOUNCE LIVING WAGE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Tuesday, June 7, 2016**

Contact: Tyler Lowry, Commissioners, 614/525-6630

Marty Homan, Commissioners, 614/525-5273

**COMMISSIONERS ANNOUNCE LIVING WAGE**

The Franklin County Commissioners voted this morning to implement a series of wage adjustments that could result in pay raises for up to about 750 county employees, including ensuring that all current and future commissioner employees will be paid a living wage. The commissioners have long been committed to seeing that all residents of Franklin County are paid a living wage for the work that they do, and a year ago commissioned a study to determine what that hourly wage is in Franklin County, and how the Board can implement a living wage for all of its employees. The resolution passed today will increase the amount of the lowest salary paid to non-bargaining commissioner employees to \$13.69 per hour. It also allows the county to renegotiate union contracts so that the changes to apply to bargaining unit employees as well.

The study, conducted by Clemans Nelson & Associates, a nationally respected management and labor relations consulting firm, used resources developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to determine that the living wage in Franklin County is \$13.69 per hour. "Living wage" is defined as a wage that allows a family of four, including two working adults, to maintain a normal standard of living within the community in which they work. The Clemans Nelson study also addressed the problem of "wage compression" within the commissioners' county agencies, which occurs when the minimum rate in one pay grade is too close to the minimum of the next higher grade. As a result, not only will the lowest-paid Board of Commissioners employees be seeing an increase, but the minimum rate in every pay grade will be increasing and employees who have been in their current positions for at least 3 years will also be seeing a raise.

"Franklin County is the main local provider of social services in Central Ohio," said Board of Commissioners President, John O'Grady. "The employees providing those services



shouldn't also have to receive them in order to provide for their families. Everyone who puts in an honest day's work deserves an honest day's pay, and we're going to start with that right here in the commissioners' office."

Many of the affected employees are covered by labor agreements between their unions and the county, which will have to be amended for the new pay rates to take effect. A provision in the resolution passed by the commissioners today authorizes county Human Resources to renegotiate the labor agreements immediately so that bargaining unit employees can take advantage of the new pay scale even before the contracts would normally have been renegotiated next year.

"We have the best employees anywhere," said Commissioner Paula Brooks. "They work hard and, like every American, deserve to be paid fairly for their labor. I'm glad that we're able to do this for our own staff, and will continue to work to see that all hard-working residents of Franklin County are able to earn a living wage."

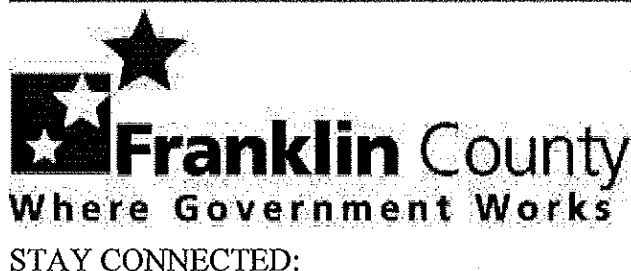
The plan also includes a new system of determining raises for non-bargaining employees based on merit and performance. All together, the new wage scale system is expected to cost the county about an additional \$1.6 million per year.

"I'm proud of all that we have been able to do to take care of our great staff here at the county commissioners' office," said Commissioner Marilyn Brown. "From our excellent benefits package to our early adoption of benefits for domestic partners, our healthy workforce initiatives, and now a living wage, we really are taking care of our people, but it's also about attracting and retaining the best and brightest employees at every position."

Franklin County employs about 6,500 people, and the county commissioners employ about 1,300. The new wage scales and merit raises will take effect on July 1st for non-bargaining employees, and as soon after that for bargaining unit staff as the employee unions are able to ratify new contracts.

###

For more information on the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, call the Office of Public Affairs at (614) 525-3322 or visit [commissioners.franklincountyohio.gov](http://commissioners.franklincountyohio.gov).





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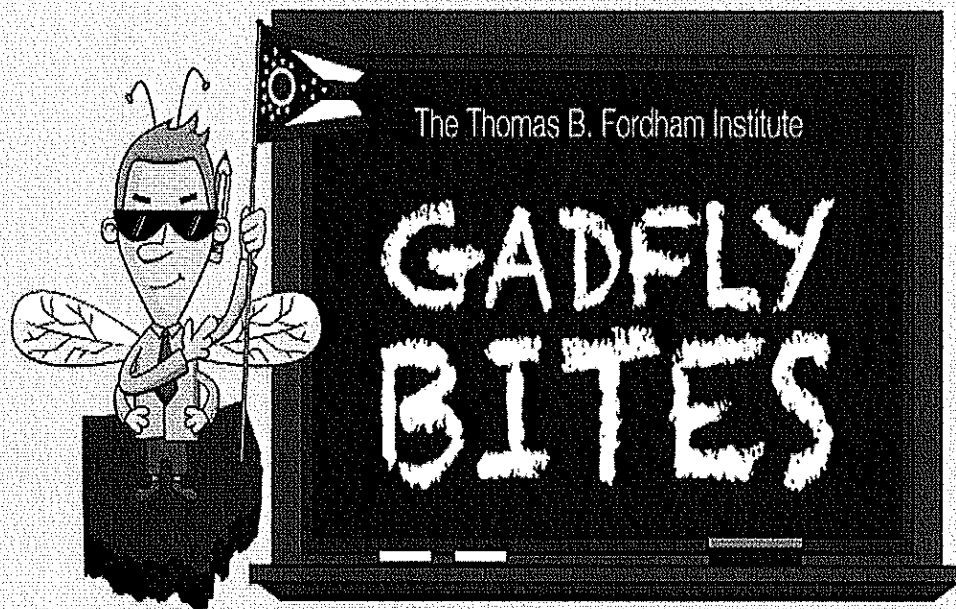


**From:** Thomas B. Fordham Institute

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 9, 2018 8:07 AM

**To:** Derksen, Nick

**Subject:** Gadfly Bites 5/9/18 - Probably wise to leave the cowboys out of it this time



1. Chad's recent blog comparing the education reform paths taken by Florida and Ohio through the lens of NAEP scores became news this week in Cincinnati. Justifiably so, given its quality and depth. Seems like just yesterday that I was picking Chad up at the Columbus airport on his first ever visit to Ohio. And just look at him now: a full-blown Buckeye expert. I suspect it's my influence that did it really. (WVXU Public Media, Cincinnati, 5/7/18)

2. Another bill has been introduced related to graduation requirements in Ohio – specifically, to extend the current, “temporary”, lowered, non-academic pathways (or, “hand-holding diplomas? D if you will) for two more school years. Here’s hoping it has as much substance as those diplomas it wants to keep handing out. (Gongwer Ohio, 5/7/18)
3. We have talked extensively about the possibility of the Say Yes to Education program locating in Cleveland. But each news story seems to indicate “one more step” that needs to be done before anything can be decided or actually move forward. The latest: Say Yes wants to know what’s already being done in the CLE to support poor students in school and toward graduation, college, and career. (Don’t let ‘em get wind of that bill to extend the “hand holding” diplomas whatever you do!) Hence, an asset mapping project. Luckily, the Say Yes folks don’t seem to be asking about academics at all so that’s good. But this is just an RFP at this point. No mapping work will begin until at least July and it could last through November. Who knows what the next preparatory step will be after that? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/9/18)
4. We have also talked extensively about the big changes afoot for the high schools in Toledo as they all become different themed academies starting next year. Here is a bit more on what was once plain old Jones High School, is currently Jones Leadership Academy, and will soon become Jones Leadership Academy of Business. You can check out the piece for all the deets provided, but I was suddenly struck while reading it by just how frickin’ long I’ve been doing this work. I can actually

remember the *last* time Toledo tried this: the Cowboy Academy of Business back in 2007. It was part of a highly-touted small-school-within-a-large-high-school movement in the district. It died a death when the Libbey High School building in which it was housed closed in 2010. (Toledo Blade, 5/7/18)

5. Here at least is something new under the sun: Heartland High School, the only school in Ohio designed to support students recovering from substance-abuse disorder, is moving toward its opening in Columbus this fall. It has a board in place, an interim leader, and now, a location. How the private school will fund its work still seems to be a work in progress, but support does seem to be growing. (Columbus Dispatch, 5/8/18)
  6. Sticking with the topic of money to end the day: Dayton City Schools' administrative staffers are going to be next in line to get more of it soon, it seems. Increases in the pay scale across the board have been cued up and, if approved by the board, will be retroactive to the beginning of the school year resulting in quite a windfall. Apparently a move to self-insurance has saved the district millions and now that the union contracts are all done and raises doled out there, it's time for the nonunion staff to get theirs. (Dayton Daily News, 5/8/18)
-

**The Thomas B. Fordham Institute** is the nation's leader in advancing educational excellence for every child through quality research, analysis, and commentary, as well as on-the-ground action and advocacy in Ohio.

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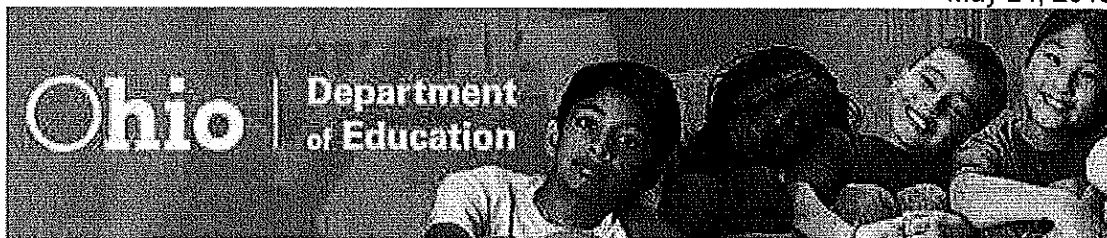
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**From:** Ohio Ed Updates  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 24, 2018 6:57 AM  
**To:** Derksen, Nick  
**Subject:** Ed. News - May 24, 2018

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May 24, 2018



## State Education News

### **Y'town, Lorain boards take battle against HB 70 to Columbus**

Youngstown Vindicator

5/24/2018

School board members from Youngstown united with those from Lorain in Columbus today to oppose House Bill 70.

<http://www.vindy.com/news/2018/may/23/ytown-lorain-school-board-members-take-battle-agai/?nw>

### **Recommendations, legislation restart conversation on bus seatbelts**

Columbus Dispatch

5/24/2018

Jason Sherman wasn't surprised by the latest safety recommendations issued recently by the National Transportation.

<http://www.dispatch.com/news/20180523/new-recommendations-legislation-restart-conversation-about-school-bus-seat-belts>

### **Memorial Day reminders about children in Military families**

OSBA

5/24/2018

Memorial Day is the official day on which the United States (U.S.) honors and remembers those who have died in active military service.

<https://www.ohioschoolboards.org/blogs/legal-ledger/memorial-day-reminders-about-children-military->

families?accessCode=00370c9612

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## National Education News

### The Students, Educator Lost in Texas School Shooting

Education Week

5/24/2018

A history buff who wanted to join the Army and an artistic student who liked red hair dye were among the 10 people killed at a Texas.

[https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2018/05/21/school-shooting-victims-remembered-as-sweet\\_ap.html](https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2018/05/21/school-shooting-victims-remembered-as-sweet_ap.html)

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## Local Education News

### Pickerington, Bexley, Gahanna districts OK union contracts

Columbus Dispatch

5/24/2018

Within the past week, two local school districts, Pickerington and Bexley, have reached new agreements.

<http://www.dispatch.com/news/20180523/pickerington-bexley-gahanna-jefferson-districts-ok-union-contracts>

### Childcare organization celebrates successes of young moms

Toledo Blade

5/24/2018

Kathy Sharp, Rosalyn Whickum, Cheyanne Garcia, Kayla Shay Goben and Gabriel Harris celebrate their graduation.

<http://www.toledoblade.com/Education/2018/05/23/Childcare-organization-celebrates-the-successes-of-young-mothers.html>

### Hanifan flourishes as first-year educator

Zanesville Times-Recorder

5/24/2018

Adjusting to middle school is a challenge for students and teachers. Christina Hanifan, a first-year math teacher at Zanesville.

<https://www.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com/story/news/2018/05/23/hanifan-flourishes-first-year-educator/637262002/>

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## Higher Education News

### Apply to these types o colleges to head off student debt

USA Today

5/24/2018

When it comes to choosing a college and minimizing debt, forget prestige: Grant and merit aid are the way to go.



<https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2018/05/11/apply-these-three-types-colleges-head-off-student-debt/599099002/>

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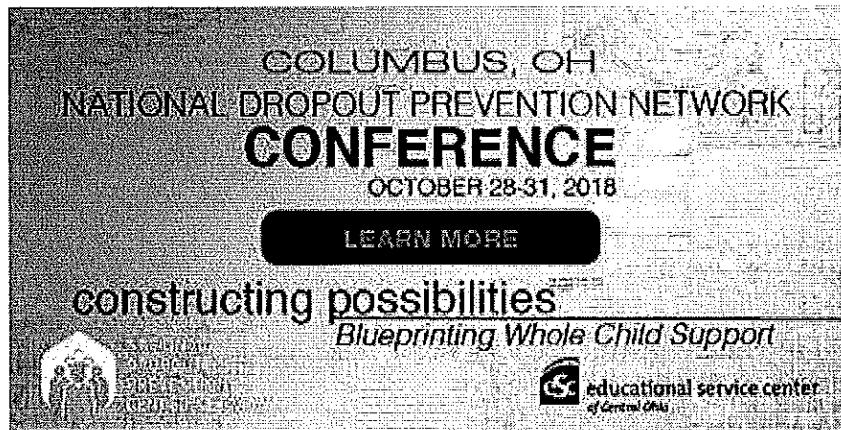


**From:** Joseph Weitz

**Sent:** Friday, May 25, 2018 7:18 AM

**Subject:** Weekly Wrap 5/25/18 - A service of the ESC of Central Ohio - Central Ohio Growth; Technology First Initiative; Credential Transparency; Condition of Education 2018

Connect with us!



**Week of May 25, 2018**

Please let Joe know if you have questions, requests, or would like to be added to the distribution list. Thank you.

## **JUMP TO A SECTION**

### **FEATURED ITEMS**

#### **OHIO**

**Central Ohio Schools**

**Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education**

**Joint Education Oversight Committee**

**Education & Public Policy**

**Postsecondary & Workforce Development**

#### **NATIONAL/WORLD**

**Federal/U.S. Department of Education**

**Education Policy & Finance**

**Standards & Assessments**

**Digital Convergence**

Personalized Learning Frameworks  
Extended Learning Opportunities  
School Safety & Discipline  
Mental Health & Wellness  
Social-Emotional Learning  
Career & Technical Education  
Postsecondary & Workforce Development  
Curriculum  
STEM/STEAM  
Data

#### OHIO LEGISLATION UPDATE

House Bills  
Senate Bills

## FEATURED ITEMS

**CENTRAL OHIO GROWTH** – *The U.S. Census Bureau released new population estimates for cities, villages and townships. Columbus was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the country and 1<sup>st</sup> in the Midwest for largest numeric population increase between July 1, 2016 and July 1, 2017. In Ohio, seven of the state's fastest-growing cities are in Franklin County or an adjoining county, and five of them are mostly within Franklin County.*

#### Census Bureau Reveals Fastest Growing Large Cities – U.S. Census Bureau

- Eight of the 15 cities or towns with the largest population gains were located in the South in 2017, with three of the top five in Texas, according to new population estimates released today by the U.S. Census Bureau
- Columbus is 8<sup>th</sup> overall and first in the Midwest

#### Delaware County Growth Heading North – Columbus Dispatch

- As homes and businesses continue their surge into southern Delaware County, plans for growth are creeping into the more northern townships

#### Columbus Retains Position as 14<sup>th</sup>-Largest City, For Now – Columbus Dispatch

- In Ohio, the numbers also show continued growth for central Ohio communities. Seven of the state's fastest-growing cities are in Franklin County or an adjoining county, and five of them are mostly within Franklin County

## **GOV. KASICH SIGNS TECHNOLOGY FIRST EXECUTIVE ORDER**

– *Governor John Kasich signed an executive order launching the "Technology First" initiative. The initiative is the product of efforts launched in the*

*Governor's last budget that called upon the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities to explore the use of technology such as apps, cell phones, smart pads, and smart speakers to augment the supports delivered by caregivers. The executive order also will create a new council to make recommendations, set benchmarks and foster partnerships that will help to expand the use of supportive technology for Ohioans with developmental disabilities.*

**Kasich Signs Executive Order to Put New Technologies to Work for Ohioans with Developmental Disabilities – Governor of Ohio**

- Ohioans with developmental disabilities will now have the opportunity to improve their lives with the help of innovative supportive technologies thanks to the new "Technology First" initiative launched today by an executive order signed by Gov. John R. Kasich

**Robot Joins Gov. John Kasich to Sign Executive Order Prioritizing Technology for People with Disabilities – Cleveland Plain Dealer**

- Smart wheelchairs, speakers that can turn on lights and other technology will be considered as part of care plans for Ohioans with developmental disabilities under an executive order signed Thursday by Gov. John Kasich

**OHIO JOINS CREDENTIAL TRANSPARENCY PROJECT –**

*Credential Engine announced a new partnership with Ohio, led by the Ohio Department of Higher Education, to bring credential transparency, develop credential literacy, improve alignment between credential offerings and outcomes, and inform state practices, programs, and policies by harnessing data that helps students, workers, and citizens make strategic credentialing decisions. Credential Engine is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating credential transparency, revealing the credential marketplace, increasing credential literacy, and empowering everyone to make more informed decisions about credentials and their value*

**Credential Engine Partners with Kansas, Michigan, and Ohio to Increase Credential Transparency – ODHE**

- Credential Engine announced today new partnerships with three states to bring credential transparency, develop credential literacy, improve alignment between credential offerings and outcomes, and inform state practices, programs, and policies by harnessing data that helps students, workers, and citizens make strategic credentialing decisions

**Ohio Joins Multi-State Partnership Promoting Credential Transparency – Hannah**

- Ohio, along with Kansas and Michigan, has been chosen to join a new partnership centered on promoting transparency in occupational credentials, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) announced

**Success Network – ESC of Central Ohio**

- We aim to empower educational institutions, businesses, communities and leaders to create and provide accessibility for our future generations to succeed

**FEDS RELEASE CONDITION OF EDUCATION 2018** - *The U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics released its annual The Condition of Education report. The report includes data on key education indicators from prekindergarten through postsecondary, as well as labor force outcomes and international comparisons.*

**The Condition of Education 2018 – USDOE/IES/NCES**

- This website contains key indicators on the condition of education in the United States at all levels, from prekindergarten through postsecondary, as well as labor force outcomes and international comparisons. The indicators summarize important developments and trends using the latest statistics, which are updated throughout the year as new data become available. In addition, this website has Spotlight indicators that provide more in-depth analyses on selected topics. The Condition of Education is a congressionally mandated report that is provided to Congress each year

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## OHIO

### ***Central Ohio Schools***

**FutureReady Back with New Leader and Mission Focused on Birth to Age 5 – Columbus Dispatch**

- After about a year on hiatus, a public-private agency, created to bolster education in Columbus by helping its children, is back in operation

**Delaware County Growth Heading North – Columbus Dispatch**

- As homes and businesses continue their surge into southern Delaware County, plans for growth are creeping into the more northern townships

**Columbus Retains Position as 14<sup>th</sup>-Largest City, For Now – Columbus Dispatch**

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- Columbus is 8<sup>th</sup> overall and first in the Midwest

## **BEXLEY CITY SCHOOLS**

### **Pickerington, Bexley, Gahanna-Jefferson District OK Union Contracts – Columbus Dispatch**

- Within the past week, two local school districts, Pickerington and Bexley, have reached new agreements with their teachers unions, and a third, Gahanna-Jefferson, has amended its contracts with teachers and bus drivers for next year

## **CHILLICOTHE CITY SCHOOLS**

### **After Investigation, Chillicothe Board Member Jeff Hartmus Cleared of Residency Questions – Chillicothe Gazette**

- An investigation into a residency complaint of a Chillicothe City Schools board member determined he does live in the city

### **Chillicothe Board Acts to Encourage Some to Stay, Others to Go – Chillicothe Gazette**

- Chillicothe City Schools' administrators will get a boost to their retirement coffers while longtime employees will be incentivized to retire next year after recent actions by the school board

## **COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS**

### **Columbus School Board Hires Taft Firm as Counsel for New Superintendent Search – Columbus Dispatch**

- The Columbus Board of Education took another step toward resuming its new superintendent search Tuesday evening, signing a contract with an independent outside legal counsel and agreeing to a framework for hiring a new search firm

## **DUBLIN CITY SCHOOLS**

### **Continued Success for Class of 2018 a Good Bet – This Week From the Superintendent's Desk**

- Todd Hoadley, superintendent of the Dublin City Schools, writes that the district's class of 2018 has almost 1,200 members who will participate in commencement ceremonies this weekend in the Schottenstein Center on the campus of The Ohio State University

## **FAIRBANKS LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**Fairbanks Adjusts Policy Regarding College Credit Courses – Marysville Journal-Tribune**

- The Fairbanks Board of Education has a new policy on College Credit Plus (CCP) programs for the school district

**GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Pickerington, Bexley, Gahanna-Jefferson District OK Union Contracts – Columbus Dispatch**

- Within the past week, two local school districts, Pickerington and Bexley, have reached new agreements with their teachers unions, and a third, Gahanna-Jefferson, has amended its contracts with teachers and bus drivers for next year

**Gahanna Teachers, Drivers OK One-Year Contracts – This Week**

- Collective-bargaining agreements were approved by the Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education on May 17

**Principal Dodd Leaving Gahanna Lincoln for Mason – This Week**

- The Gahanna-Jefferson schools announced today, May 23, that Lincoln High School principal Bobby Dodd is resigning to take a position as principal of a large high school near Cincinnati

**GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS**

**Group's Verdict on Grandview Heights School Facilities Plan Coming Soon – This Week**

- The Grandview Heights City School District's financial advisory committee will present its initial findings May 29 on the funding, phasing and scope of a proposed facilities plan for the district

**NEW ALBANY-PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**Summer Repairs Exemplify Fiscal Progress, Sustainability – This Week Eagle Eye on Education**

- Michael Sawyers, superintendent of the New Albany-Plain Local Schools, writes that they will have a short summer window to make necessary repairs and replacements on the New Albany-Plain Local School District campus in anticipation of the first day of school Aug. 16

**OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**Expansion Mulled for Elementary School Trio – This Week**

- The Olentangy Local School District is running out of room for its youngest students -- and the school board could vote as soon as next month to spend millions on expanding existing elementary schools

#### **OLSD in Need of Additional Classrooms – Delaware Gazette**

- With 15 elementary schools already in the Olentangy Local School District, it appears that number will grow larger in the near future. The OLSD Board of Education met last week to discuss, among other things, the increasingly pressing need for more elementary classroom space

#### **Olentangy Handbook Changes Clarify Penalties for Bullying – This Week**

- The Olentangy Local School District is beefing up its bullying and harassment policies in response to student complaints

#### **TOLLES CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER**

#### **Tolles Teaching Real World Skills – Marysville Journal-Tribune**

- The seniors of Tolles Career & Technical Center learned important life skills at the school's Real World Institute conference May 16

#### **Getting Practical at Tolles' Real World Institute – Columbus Messenger**

- Institute sessions ran the gamut from personal finance to laundry, providing seniors with information helpful to their transition from the classroom to the "real world"

#### **WESTERVILLE CITY SCHOOLS**

#### **Marshall to Manage District Finances as Treasurer – This Week**

- The district's school board approved legislation May 21 to hire Nicole Marshall, treasurer of Fairborn City School District, as treasurer effective July 1

#### **Propane Helps Westerville's Buses Run Cleaner, Cheaper – This Week**

- The Westerville City School District has received a grant to purchase 13 buses that run on alternative fuel

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### ***Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education***

#### **State Superintendent Presents on Philosophy behind School Improvement to JEOC – Hannah**

- Giving schools the tools and framework to create their own success will always been more valuable than attempting to do it for them, Superintendent



of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria told the Joint Education Oversight Committee (JEOC)

**ODE Awards \$33 Million in Striving Readers Grants – ODE**

- More than \$33 million was awarded today by the Ohio Department of Education to 46 school districts and consortiums of districts to improve the language and literacy development of our state's children. The list of grant awardees is available [here](#)

**Dozens of Ohio Schools Split \$33M in Grants to Aid Literacy – AP/Kansas City Star**

- Dozens of Ohio school districts and consortiums of districts will split \$33 million in federal grant money to improve literacy development

**ODE Recognizes New Purple Star Schools – ODE**

- State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria announced 33 Ohio schools that received the Purple Star designation for their commitment to serving military-connected students and families

**School-Based Healthcare Support Toolkit Offers Resources to Support School and Care Provider Partnerships – ODE**

- Ohio launched the new School-Based Health Care Toolkit, a set of resources for schools and communities as they work together to address common health issues and keep students in class and learning

**Annual Safety Plan Certification Reminder – ODE**

- Schools must annually certify to the Ohio Department of Education that their safety plan documents are current and accurate. School and district administrators with compliant school safety plans, from 2017 and earlier, have until July 1 of each year to complete this annual review

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***Joint Education Oversight Committee***

**State Superintendent Presents on Philosophy behind School Improvement to JEOC – Hannah**

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**School Improvement – ODE**

- State Superintendent Paolo DeMaria's presentation to JEOC

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## ***Ohio Education & Public Policy***

### **Election 2018 and ECOT: A Primer on the Scandal-Ridden Online Charter School and Why It Matters – Cincinnati Enquirer**

- The Enquirer catches you up on the details of the beleaguered school and its political implications this November

### **Bill to Ease Reporting on Minorities for Ohio Charters, Other Small Schools – Columbus Dispatch**

- Many of Ohio's smaller charter schools, and even a few traditional public schools, would not have to report on academic performance by small groups of students including racial minorities if a Senate-passed bill also gets through the House

### **House Committee Debates K-12 Deregulation, Report Card Overhaul – Hannah**

- Two bills to modify state report cards, teacher evaluations and other education reforms enacted in the past several years came in for debate Tuesday in the House Education Committee

### **House Panel Amends Deregulation Bill; Distress Commission Moratorium Splits GOP – Hannah**

- With lawmakers wanting more information and a cancelled floor session sapping urgency, the House Education Committee backed off plans Wednesday to vote on a broad school deregulation measure, though members did agree to several changes

### **Ohio School Deregulation Bill Gets Dozen Amendments, But No Vote – Dayton Daily News**

- Wednesday's expected Ohio House vote on a bill supporters claim will reduce red-tape for local schools did not happen, as the House session was canceled amid Republicans' continuing struggle to choose a new Speaker of the House

### **Prospect of Democratic Measure Passing Leads to Sudden Adjournment by GOP Chair – Columbus Dispatch**

- A wide-ranging educational policy bill ran into a sudden roadblock when minority Democrats were on the verge of getting an amendment approved that would end, for now, possible state takeover of low-performing districts

### **Kasich Support of A-F Grades Stalls Attempts to Kill or Delay Them for Schools, Districts – Cleveland Plain Dealer**

- Gov. John Kasich's support of giving schools and school districts A-F grades has stalled progress on two attempts to delay some grades or to overhaul state report cards entirely

#### **New Recommendations, Legislation Restart Conversation about School Bus Seat Belts – Columbus Dispatch**

- For the first time, the NTSB recommended all new large school buses be equipped with lap and shoulder belts. Additionally, it recommended new buses have automatic emergency braking and electronic stability control

#### **Schuring Cancels Sessions amid Uncertain Speaker Vote, Rosenberger FBI Raid; Smith Wants Vote Now – Hannah**

- House Speaker Pro Tempore Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) said he cancelled this week's voting sessions because he didn't have "absolute assurances" that 50 Republicans would support Rep. Ryan Smith's (R-Gallipolis) speaker bid

#### **Obhof Waves Off House Worries, Leads Senate through Unanimous Voting Session – Hannah**

- Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) led his chamber through a slate of legislation in unanimous fashion Wednesday. In comments following session, he sought to distance members from the House leadership crisis

#### **Kunze Reintroduces Bill to Deal with Students Who Make Threats – Hannah**

- Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) commented, following sponsor testimony by Sen. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) on her SB289 before the Senate Education Committee Wednesday, that it sounds like legislation he once sponsored premised on the idea that "no student has the right to interfere with another student's right to learn"

#### **Kasich Signs Executive Order to Put Focus on Technology for Disabled Ohioans – Hannah**

- Ohioans with disabilities who receive help from state programs will have a better chance at being matched up with technology to improve their quality of life under an executive order signed by Gov. John Kasich

#### **Kasich Signs Executive Order to Put New Technologies to Work for Ohioans with Developmental Disabilities – Governor of Ohio**

- Ohioans with developmental disabilities will now have the opportunity to improve their lives with the help of innovative supportive technologies thanks to the new "Technology First" initiative launched today by an executive order signed by Gov. John R. Kasich

#### **Robot Joins Gov. John Kasich to Sign Executive Order Prioritizing Technology for People with Disabilities – Cleveland Plain Dealer**

- Smart wheelchairs, speakers that can turn on lights and other technology will be considered as part of care plans for Ohioans with developmental disabilities under an executive order signed Thursday by Gov. John Kasich

#### **Drug Education Panel Works to Finalize How-To Report – Hannah**

- The Joint Study Committee on Drug Use Prevention Education, a creation of legislative leaders and Attorney General Mike DeWine, reviewed Thursday a draft of its 2018 report, which will follow up on last year's report on key prevention strategies with suggestions for how schools can put those strategies into action

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### ***Ohio Postsecondary & Workforce Development***

#### **Credential Engine Partners with Kansas, Michigan, and Ohio to Increase Credential Transparency – ODHE**

- Credential Engine announced today new partnerships with three states to bring credential transparency, develop credential literacy, improve alignment between credential offerings and outcomes, and inform state practices, programs, and policies by harnessing data that helps students, workers, and citizens make strategic credentialing decisions

#### **Ohio Joins Multi-State Partnership Promoting Credential Transparency – Hannah**

- Ohio, along with Kansas and Michigan, has been chosen to join a new partnership centered on promoting transparency in occupational credentials, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) announced

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## **NATIONAL/WORLD**

### ***Federal & US Department of Education***

#### **DeVos Defends Civil Rights Record, Backs Better Pay for 'Great Teachers' at House Hearing – EdWeek**

- House Democrats and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos sparred over civil rights, the Every Student Succeeds Act, and teachers' salaries at a hearing Tuesday, but lawmakers from both parties largely avoided

controversial questions about school safety in the aftermath of a Texas high school shooting last week that left 10 students and staff dead

**Prepared Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to the House Education and the Workforce Committee - USDOE**

**Trump Panel Slammed on Slow Pace of School Safety Work – EdWeek**

- Nearly three months—and six school shootings—since President Donald Trump created a commission to seek solutions to school violence, the Cabinet-level panel is being slammed for what critics see as its slack pace, lack of transparency, and limited representation

**The Condition of Education 2018 – USDOE/IES/NCES**

- This website contains key indicators on the condition of education in the United States at all levels, from prekindergarten through postsecondary, as well as labor force outcomes and international comparisons. The indicators summarize important developments and trends using the latest statistics, which are updated throughout the year as new data become available. In addition, this website has Spotlight indicators that provide more in-depth analyses on selected topics. The Condition of Education is a congressionally mandated report that is provided to Congress each year

**Trump Ed. Dept. Announces New Career and Technical Education Grants – Edweek**

- States: Got an idea for supporting the transition for high school Career and Technical Education students into postsecondary education and the workforce? The U.S. Department of Education wants to hear from you

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***Education Policy & Finance***

**Evidence Building Opportunities under ESSA: How States Can and Should Generate Evidence to Drive Better Outcomes for Students – Chiefs for Change/Results for America**

- This report builds on the work Chiefs for Change has done to identify ways to leverage the evidence provisions in ESSA and use federal funds to support this approach. Specifically, the report offers guidance for state education agencies (SEAs) as they both use and build evidence to improve outcomes

**Meaningful Engagement Under ESSA — Issue 2: A Handbook for Local Leaders on School Improvement – Opportunity Institute/CCSSO**

- This new resource offers local leaders more detail about different school improvement strategies, as well as assessing need and aligning resources

with chosen priorities — and how to do so in collaboration with community stakeholder

**States Are Raising the Bar for Their Students, New Report Shows, but Higher Standards Are Not Driving Higher Test Scores – The 74**

- States are setting higher expectations for student academic performance, according to a new report in the journal Education Next. The authors find that proficiency standards on state tests have grown more stringent over the past few years, defying worries that they would be dumbed down as the federal government took a more detached approach to school accountability. But higher standards don't seem to have yielded higher performance

**Have States Maintained High Expectations for Student Performance? – Education Next**

- So, has the starting gun been fired on a race to the bottom? Have the bars for reaching academic proficiency fallen as many states have loosened their commitment to Common Core? And, is there any evidence that the states that have raised their proficiency bars since 2009 have seen greater growth in student learning? In a nutshell, the answers to these three questions are no, no, and, so far, none

**Four-Day Weeks Bring Smiles in Rural Schools. But Will They Work in Big Cities? – NBC News**

- Increasingly, school districts across the country are banking on the short week to save money and alleviate the worsening teacher shortage. Three-day weekends are a nice recruiting tool

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***Standards & Assessments***

**States Are Raising the Bar for Their Students, New Report Shows, but Higher Standards Are Not Driving Higher Test Scores – The 74**

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#### **U.S. Ed. Dept. Warns Districts to Step Up Student Privacy Protections for SAT, ACT – EdWeek**

- School districts that administer the SAT or ACT to all students are getting a bracing warning from the U.S. Department of Education: They must take steps to protect students' personal information, or risk running afoul of federal privacy laws

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### ***Digital Convergence***

#### **How Districts Can Incorporate Open Educational Resources – EdWeek**

- As students and teachers gain increased access to digital tools and interactive resources in the classroom, more schools have started using open educational resources

#### **Data-Driven Instruction: Top Trend in K-12 Use of Ed-Tech, Teachers Say – EdWeek**

- Educators' use of data to make decisions about instruction and intervention is rising dramatically in U.S. schools, according to an online survey of 1,516 teachers released today by Kahoot!

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### ***Personalized Learning Frameworks***

#### **How One New Hampshire District is Leveraging Success Skills in a Competency-Based System – CompetencyWorks**

- CompetencyWorks offers an in-depth look at how schools in New Hampshire are building success skills

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### ***Extended Learning Opportunities***

#### **The Summer After Kindergarten: Children's Experiences by Socioeconomic Characteristics – USDOE/IES/NCES**

- This Statistics in Brief describes students' summer nonparental care arrangements, program attendance (e.g., at summer camps or summer

school), participation in activities with family members in a typical week, and places visited with family members. Participation in summer activities is compared by two socioeconomic characteristics—household poverty status and parents' highest level of education—utilizing data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010–11 (ECLS-K:2011)

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## ***School Safety & Discipline***

### **School Shootings This Year: How Many and Where – EdWeek**

- School shootings—terrifying to students, educators, parents, and communities—always reignite polarizing debates about gun rights and school safety. To bring context to these debates, Education Week journalists will track shootings on K-12 school property this year that result in firearm-related injuries or deaths

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## ***Mental Health & Wellness***

### **Study: Suicide Rates Higher among Black Kids under 13 – Columbus Dispatch**

- Suicide rates among children under the age of 13 are twice as high for black children as their white counterparts, according to a new study by Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus

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## ***Social-Emotional Learning***

### **Putting the SEL into PBL – eSchool News**

- Project-based learning (PBL) and social emotional learning (SEL) are a perfect match; here's why

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## ***Career & Technical Education***

### **Trump Ed. Dept. Announces New Career and Technical Education Grants – Edweek**



- States: Got an idea for supporting the transition for high school Career and Technical Education students into postsecondary education and the workforce? The U.S. Department of Education wants to hear from you

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## ***Postsecondary & Workforce Development***

### **Report on Apprenticeships and Community Colleges – Inside Higher Ed**

- A new report from the American Enterprise Institute explores how community colleges could contribute to expanding apprenticeship opportunities, by playing a "role that would contribute to resolving the current mismatch between what postsecondary institutions produce and what employers need"

### **Current Term Enrollment Estimates: Spring 2018 – National Student Clearinghouse Research Center**

- In spring 2018, overall postsecondary enrollments decreased 1.3 percent from the previous spring

### **The Bad First Job's Lingering Impact – Inside Higher Ed**

- New report finds that bachelor's degree recipients whose first job does not require degree are more likely to remain "underemployed" five years later -- and women fare worse than men

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## ***Curriculum***

### **How Districts Can Incorporate Open Educational Resources – EdWeek**

- As students and teachers gain increased access to digital tools and interactive resources in the classroom, more schools have started using open educational resources

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## ***STEM/STEAM***

### **STEM Education – EdWeek Special Report**

- Government agencies, business groups, and policymakers continue to prioritize support for the the STEM fields. But K-12 educators note that these fields present many places where kids can get stuck—from weak instruction in the early grades to traditional calculus classes in high school and college. Even the end goal, improved employment outcomes, remains murky. In this

special report, Education Week takes a closer look at these STEM gateways, searching out ones that offer new avenues—like hands-on preparation for advanced manufacturing—and the efforts to break down longstanding barriers, like remedial algebra

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## **Data**

### **The Condition of Education 2018 – USDOE/IES/NCES**

- This website contains key indicators on the condition of education in the United States at all levels, from prekindergarten through postsecondary, as well as labor force outcomes and international comparisons. The indicators summarize important developments and trends using the latest statistics, which are updated throughout the year as new data become available. In addition, this website has Spotlight indicators that provide more in-depth analyses on selected topics. The Condition of Education is a congressionally mandated report that is provided to Congress each year

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# **Ohio Legislation Update**

(Recent bill action in RED. Signed into law by Governor in GREEN.)

## **HOUSE**

**HB3** DATAOHIO BOARD CREATION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Christina Hagan) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at

data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make appropriations

**STATUS: House Finance Committee – Reported out**

**HB8** PUBLIC RECORDS-MINORS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To exempt from the Public Records Law certain information concerning a minor that is included in a record related to a traffic accident involving a school vehicle in which the minor was an occupant at the time of the accident

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 29-0**

**HB14** AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION (Rep. Kathleen Clyde) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically unless those persons decline and to expand how a voter may register or update their registration through the online voter registration system

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

**HB21** COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION (Rep. Steve Hambley) Regarding verification of community school enrollments

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 31-0**

**HB24** VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS-TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Timothy Ginter) - To modify the existing tax exemption for veterans organizations' property, to make appropriations and otherwise provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

**HB37** SCHOOL SAFETY-STRUCTURES (Rep. Steve Arndt) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB40** GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Dave Greenspan) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database

**Status: House State & Local Government Committee**

**HB47** STUDENTS IN MILITARY (Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the "Students to Soldiers Support Act (S3A)" regarding the participation of students who are serving in the uniformed services in extracurricular activities at public and nonpublic schools and public and private colleges

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB49**OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) Creates FY 2018-2019 main operating budget

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective July 1, 2017**

**HB51**DEPARTMENT REVIEW SCHEDULE (Rep. Keith Faber) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review

**STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended**

**HB53**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-MEMBER DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

**HB58**CURSIVE HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Marilyn Slaby) To require instruction in cursive handwriting

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

**HB66**UNDERGRAD MISSION STUDY COMMITTEE (Rep. Ron Young) To require permanently tenured state university or college faculty members to teach at least three credit hours of undergraduate courses per semester

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee**

**HB69**LEVY REVENUE REIMBURSEMENT (Rep. Bob Cupp) To require reimbursement of certain township fire and emergency medical service levy revenue forgone because of the creation of a municipal tax increment financing district

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective March 23, 2018**

**HB74**INCREASE COLLEGE TAX DEDUCTION (Rep. Stephen Huffman, Rep. Theresa Gavarone) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to the state's 529 college savings program from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per beneficiary per year

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

**HB77**SICK-CHILD CARE LICENSURE (Rep. Wes Retherford) To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers

**STATUS: House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee**

**HB80**SCHOOL FOOD-SUMMER INTERVENTION (Rep. Sarah LaTourette, Rep. Kent Smith) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**HB87**COMMUNITY SCHOOL PUBLIC MONEYS (Rep. Kristina Roegner) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee**

**HB89**AUGUST SALES TAX HOLIDAY (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

**HB98**CAREER INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Kristin Boggs) Regarding the presentation of career information to students

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective June 29, 2018**

**HB102** SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To replace locally levied school district property taxes with a statewide property tax and require recipients of certain tax exemptions to reimburse the state for such levy revenue lost due to those exemptions; to increase the state sales and use tax rates and allocate additional revenue to state education purposes; to repeal school district income taxes; to require the Treasurer of State to issue general obligation bonds to refund certain school district debt obligations; to create a new system of funding schools where the state pays a specified amount per student that each student may use to attend the public or chartered nonpublic school of the student's choice, without the requirement of a local contribution; to eliminate the School Facilities Commission; to eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program, Pilot Project Scholarship Program, Autism Scholarship Program, and Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program; to eliminate interdistrict open enrollment; to require educational service centers to transport students on a countywide basis; and to permit school districts to enter into a memoranda of understanding for one district to manage another

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

**HB103** FISCAL EMERGENCY PROVISIONS (Rep. William Reineke) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective October 17, 2017**

**HB108** INFORMED STUDENT DOCUMENT ACT (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Robert McColley) To require one-half unit of financial literacy in the high school curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act"

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out**

**HB110** COLLEGE CREDIT APPRENTICESHIPS (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Bill Dean) To create a subprogram of the College Credit Plus Program that permits students to participate in certified apprenticeship programs

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Bill amended**

**HB118** TAX COMPLAINT DISMISSAL (Rep. Derek Merrin) To expressly prohibit the dismissal of a property tax complaint for failure to correctly identify the property owner

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Passed by Senate, Vote 32-0**

**HB124** VOCATIONAL SCHOOL TAX LEVY (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Rick Carfagna) To authorize a joint vocational school district to submit the question of a renewal tax levy to voters who did not have an opportunity to vote on the levy at an election held in November of 2015 because the levy was only placed on the ballot in one of several counties in which the district has territory

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

**HB129** SCHOOL EXTERNSHIPS-GOVERNOR (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To require the Governor to complete a forty-hour externship consisting of on-site work experience in city, local, and exempted village school districts in the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years

**STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee**

**HB134** SCHOOL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Darrell Kick) To allow community improvements board grants to a school district to be spent for permanent improvements outside the county so long as the improvements are within the school district

**STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended**

**HB163** PREVAILING WAGE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Craig Riedel) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects

**STATUS: House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee**

**HB166** WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM REVISIONS (Rep. William Reineke, Rep. Bob Cupp) To revise the laws governing the state's workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB170** COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Mike Duffey)

With regard to academic content standards and curriculum requirements for computer science; to revise educator qualifications regarding computer science; and to authorize public schools to establish computer science and technology funds

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective March 23, 2018**

**HB176** SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS (Rep. Andrew Thompson) With regard to state achievement assessments, statewide academic content standards and model curricula, and teacher and administrator evaluations

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended**

**HB179** IMMIGRATION LAW COMPLIANCE (Rep. Candice Keller) To require state and local authorities to cooperate with the federal government in the enforcement of immigration laws, to prohibit a local government that fails to do so from receiving certain state funds, to provide for the removal of officers of a local government that fails to do so, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

**HB181** ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT STANDARDS (Rep. Ron Hood, Rep. Tom Brinkman) With regard to the state academic content standards and primary and secondary education assessments

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB186** COLLEGE TAX DEDUCTION (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Gary Scherer) To enact the "Blair Deduction" to allow an individual obtaining a postsecondary degree or credential from an eligible educational institution to claim an income tax deduction for qualified higher education expenses

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

**HB200** OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (Koehler, K) - To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended**

**HB203** YOUTH SUMMER JOBS INITIATIVE (Barnes, Jr., J) - To require the Director of Development Services to establish a youth summer jobs pledging

initiative to increase access to summer employment opportunities for high school and college youth

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Bill amended**

**HB217** COLLEGE APPLICATIONS-DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS (Rep. Andrew Brenner) To prohibit institutions of higher education from requiring students to disclose disciplinary actions on their applications for admission

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

**HB220** NONPUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDS (Rep. David Leland) With regard to the use of funds by community schools and nonpublic schools

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB224** RE-SERVING SCHOOL LUNCH ITEMS (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB227** LICENSE PLATE-KENSTON LOCAL SCHOOLS (Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To create the "Kenston Local Schools" license plate

**STATUS: House Transportation & Public Safety Committee – Reported out as amended**

**HB235** EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT PROCEDURE (Rep. Theresa Gavarone) Regarding procedures for approval or disapproval of the state education plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee**

**HB237** MULTICOUNTY LOCAL ELECTIONS (Rep. Dorothy Pelanda) To require a political subdivision with territory in more than one county that places an issue on the ballot to notify the board of elections of every county in which the political subdivision has territory, to require the Secretary of State to establish a database to facilitate communication between the boards of elections and the Secretary concerning local elections, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

**HB240** RESPECT YOUR DATE ACT (Barnes, Jr. J) To enact the "Respect Your Date Act" to designate the month of April as "Respect Your Date Month" and to require each state institution of higher education to adopt a policy regarding dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and rape on campus and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Reported out as amended**



**HB242** SCHOOL RETIREMENT-COST OF LIVING (Rep. Rick Carfagna) Regarding School Employees Retirement System annual cost-of-living adjustments

**STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB246** DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY CLASSROOMS (Rep. John Boccieri, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to provide funding to certain county boards of developmental disabilities to assist in the acquisition of classroom facilities

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB262** INDEPENDENT BUDGET PROCESS (Rep. James Butler, Jr., Rep. Mark Romanchuk) To provide for the preparation of a state biennial budget independent of that submitted by the Governor and to authorize the Legislative Service Commission, upon the request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President of the Senate, to arrange for an independent actuarial review of a proposed bill, specified analyses of economic policy initiatives and state benchmarking data, and a study of the state's long-range financial outlook

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

**HB298** PUBLIC EMPLOYEE SICK DAYS (Rep. Derek Merrin) To make changes with respect to the number of sick days provided to public employees

**STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee**

**HB312** LOCAL GOVERNMENT CREDIT CARDS (Rep. Kirk Schuring, Rep. Dave Greenspan) Regarding use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB318** SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER DEFINITION (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Finance Committee**

**HB322** SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANS (Rep. Adam Miller, Rep. Bernadine Kent) To revise the law regarding emergency management plans and school safety drills; to require each educational service center to employ an emergency response planner; to make an appropriation; and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

**HB337** TEXTBOOK SALES TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Mike Duffey) To exempt from sales and use tax textbooks purchased by post-secondary students

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee – Reported out as amended**

**HB338** BUS DRIVER MEDICAL EXAMS (Rep. Tim Ginter) Regarding medical examinations for school bus drivers

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**HB342** LOCAL TAX ISSUES-ELECTION DATES (Rep. Derek Merrin) To permit local tax-related proposals to appear only on general and primary election ballots and not on an August special election ballot and to modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Reported out as amended**

**HB343** PROPERTY VALUE CONTEST-RESOLUTIONS (Rep. Derek Merrin) To require local governments that contest property values to formally pass an authorizing resolution for each contest and to notify property owners

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Ways & Means Committee**

**HB360** ANTI-BULLYING AND HAZING (Rep. Dave Greenspan) To enact the "Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act" with regard to school discipline and bullying and hazing policies at public schools and public colleges

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee**

**HB361** PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINTS TIMEFRAME (Rep. Dave Greenspan) To increase the time within which boards of revision must decide property tax complaints

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Bill amended**

**HB363** CAMPUS FREE SPEECH (Rep. Rick Carfagna, Rep. Andrew Brenner) To enact the "Campus Free Speech Act" with respect to the freedom of speech and assembly at state institutions of higher education and the charging and allocation of student activity fees

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

**HB369** PER PUPIL FUNDING GUARANTEE (Rep. Martin Sweeney) To prescribe a per pupil funding guarantee for certain school districts and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

**HB377** CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE EDUCATION (Rep. Christina Hagan, Rep. Dan Ramos) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB378** OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT (Rep. Ryan Smith, Rep. Jack Cera) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Finance Committee**

**HB383** CHILD CARE HEALTH & SAFETY RISKS (Rep. Rick Carfagna) Regarding parental notice of serious risks to the health or safety of children receiving child care

**STATUS: House Community & Family Advancement Committee – Reported out**

**HB396** STEM DEGREE LOAN REPAYMENT (Rep. John Patterson, Rep. Rick Carfagna) To create the STEM Degree Loan Repayment Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

**HB399** HEALTH INSURANCE SAVINGS INCENTIVES (Rep. Michael Henne, Rep. James Butler, Jr.) To enact the Ohio Right to Shop Act to require health insurers to establish shared savings incentive programs for enrollees

**STATUS: House Health Committee**

**HB413** PERS ADJUSTMENT-DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES EMPLOYEES (Rep. Gary Scherer) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) annual cost-of-living adjustments granted to allowance and benefit recipients and PERS service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities

**STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee**

**HB418** SCHOOL RECORDS TRANSFER (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To require a public or chartered nonpublic school to transmit a student's records within five business days when the student transfers to another school

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB426** SCHOOL SEXUAL CONDUCT (Rep. Christina Hagan) To prohibit an employee of a school or institution of higher education who is not in a position of authority from engaging in sexual conduct with certain students

**STATUS: House Criminal Justice Committee**

**HB428** STUDENT RELIGIOUS LIBERTIES ACT (Rep. Tim Ginter, Rep. Sarah LaTourette) Regarding student religious expression and to entitle the act the "Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2018"

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out**

**HB432** STUDENT LOAN OMBUDSMAN & LICENSURE (Rep. Kristin Boggs, Rep. Brigid Kelly) To require student loan servicers to be licensed by the Division of Financial Institutions and to create the position of student loan ombudsperson in the Division of Financial Institutions to provide assistance to student loan borrowers

**STATUS: House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development Committee**

**HB438** ESC ANNEXATION (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Darrell Kick) To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards and to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 31-0**

**HB442** SCHOOL ATHLETICS-F1 VISA (Rep. Niraj Antani) To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who attends an elementary or secondary school in Ohio and holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as Ohio residents

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB443** MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION (Rep. Martin Sweeney) To require school district boards of education to incorporate mental health instruction into their health education curricula

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB449** CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR RATINGS-UNIVERSITIES (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. John Patterson) To require the Department of Education to attribute any community school sponsor ratings an entity received during its relationship with a state university board of trustees to that entity even if it no longer has a relationship with the university

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB477** ELIMINATE EDUCATION PROGRAMS (Rep. Kyle Koehler) To eliminate various provisions and programs related to the Department of Education and the operation of primary and secondary schools

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out**

**HB487** RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL-COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To eliminate the right of first refusal for community schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics schools in the acquisition of school district real property

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB488** PROPERTY TAX LEVY-BALLOT LANGUAGE (Rep. Ron Hood, Rep. John Becker) To modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

**HB491** SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS-SPECIFIED SERVICES (Rep. Jay Edwards) To require the State Board of Education to issue a substitute license to specified pupil services personnel

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out as amended**

**HB502** YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING-PUBLIC (Rep. Marlene Anielski) With regard to educator in-service training on youth suicide awareness and prevention in public schools

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted & reported out**

**HB503** YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING-PRIVATE (Rep. Marlene Anielski) With regard to educator in-service training on youth suicide awareness and prevention in private schools

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB508** OHIOCORPS PILOT PROJECT (Rep. Scott Ryan, Rep. William Reineke) To establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Finance Committee**

**HB512** CONSOLIDATE CAREER-EDUCATION GOVERNANCE (Rep. William Reineke) To establish the Department of Learning and Achievement; to abolish the Department of Higher Education, the position of the Chancellor of Higher Education, and the Ohio Board of Regents; to transfer, with exceptions, the duties regarding the administration of primary and secondary education programs and all duties regarding the administration of higher education programs to the Department of Learning and Achievement; and to prescribe certain duties regarding educator licensure, community school sponsorship, and other education programs for the State Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Department of Education

**STATUS: House Government Oversight & Accountability Committee**

**HB517** MONTH DESIGNATION-OHIO PRINCIPALS (Rep. Tim Schaffer, Rep. David Leland) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month."

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out**

**HB524** 529 CONTRIBUTIONS IN OTHER STATES (Rep. Gary Scherer, Rep. John Patterson) To expand the income tax deduction allowed for contributions to Ohio's 529 college savings program to include contributions to 529 programs established by other states

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

**HB526** VOLUNTEER SCHOOL SECURITY (Rep. Anthony DeVitis, Rep. Martin Sweeney) To authorize a public or chartered nonpublic school to enter into an agreement with a volunteer law enforcement officer to patrol school premises to

prevent or respond to a mass casualty event, to provide the parties with a qualified immunity from civil liability, and to provide a tax credit for volunteer service

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB529** CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS (Rep. Scott Ryan) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective June 29, 2018**

**HB538** TAXES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND INCREASE (Rep. Jack Cera, Rep. John Rogers) To increase the proportion of state tax revenue allocated to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.53% beginning July 1, 2019

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

**HB540** TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Rep. Theresa Gavarone, Rep. Nathan Manning) With regard to teacher evaluations

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Reported out**

**HB544** STATE BOARD-ADOPT SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARDS (Rep. John Rogers, Rep. Rick Perales) To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules prescribing standards for safety enhancements to new public and nonpublic school facilities and to require the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission to revise its construction and design standards to comply with the State Board's standards

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB547** PERS- DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SCHOOL EMPLOYEE (Rep. Jay Edwards) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of development disabilities

**STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee**

**HB549** SCHOOL OPENINGS-AFTER LABOR DAY (Rep. Steve Arndt) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB559** IMMUNIZATION-SCHOOLS (Rep. Anne Gonzales, Rep. Al Landis) To make changes to the law governing immunization of children enrolled in school, preschool programs, and day-care programs

**STATUS: House Health Committee – Bill amended**

**HB572** PERS- DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SCHOOL EMPLOYEE (Rep. Gary Scherer, Rep. Stephanie Howse) Regarding Public Employees Retirement System service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities

**STATUS: House Aging & Long Term Care Committee**

**HB591** STATE REPORT CARD REVISIONS (Rep. Mike Duffey) To revise the state report card rating system for school districts and public schools

**STATUS: Referred to House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB594** PAYMENTS MUNICIPAL CORPS/SCHOOLS BUSINESS LAYOFFS (Rep. Dan Ramos) Enacts section 131.46 of the Revised Code to provide for payments to municipalities or school districts for their lost income tax revenue after a business lays off 50 or more employees within their jurisdiction

**STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee**

**HB603** IN-STATE TUITION-MILITARY SERVICE (Rep. Rick Perales) To grant residency status for in-state tuition purposes at state institutions of higher education to all military service members who are on active duty and to their spouses and dependents

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

**HB605** OVERTIME LAW EXEPTION (Rep. Brigid Kelly, Rep. Kent Smith) To raise the salary threshold above which certain employees are exempt from the overtime law

**STATUS: House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee**

**HB609** EXPULSION-THREAT OF VIOLENCE (Rep. Jim Hughes) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB611** ONLINE SCHOOL PAYMENT (Rep. Keith Faber, Rep. Kristina Roegner) To condition payment from the Department of Education to an Internet or computer-based community school on the school's use of automatically verifiable software that tracks attendance, class size, and participation

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB619** UNBORN CHILD EDUCATION (Rep. Niraj Antani) To require the development of an instructional program and educational and informational materials and the dissemination of those materials to protect the humanity of the unborn child and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB620** REGULATION REDUCTION (Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Craig Riedel) To require agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

**HB626** MORATORIUM-ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Teresa Fedor) To establish a moratorium on the creation of new academic distress commissions

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB628** RESIDENT EDUCATOR LICENSES (Rep. Dick Stein, Rep. Wes Retherford) With regard to qualifications for obtaining a resident educator license

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB630** ALTERNATIVE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS EXTENSION (Rep. Tavia Galonski) To extend the alternative graduation requirements for two additional years

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB635** SCHOOL LICENSE PLATE PROGRAM (Rep. Dan Ramos) To create a school license plate program

**STATUS: House Transportation & Public Safety Committee**

**HB652** LOVING STATE INDEX (Rep. Stephanie Howse) To create the Loving State Index and the Loving State Index Commission to evaluate and rank municipal corporations in Ohio regarding critical supports that are vital to student academic success in order to identify gaps in opportunity for low-income individuals and minority individuals

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB654** APPROPRIATION-DISBURSEMENTS TO SUBDIVISIONS (Rep. Kent Smith, Rep. Kristin Boggs) To make a supplemental appropriation under the budget of the Auditor of State to make disbursements to political subdivisions appearing on the Auditor of State's fiscal caution, fiscal watch, or fiscal emergency list during the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB663** COLLEGE PROGRAM NOTIFICATION (Rep. Dan Ramos) To require the establishment of a program to notify college students of eligibility for programs and services of the Departments of Job and Family Services and Medicaid

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB666** COLLEGE EXPENSE TAX CREDIT (Rep. Dan Ramos) To authorize a refundable income tax credit for the amount of undergraduate higher education expenses paid by or on behalf of a student to attend a public Ohio institution of higher education

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB668** PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP FACILITIES (Rep. Tom Patton) To authorize state agencies, state institutions of higher education, counties, townships, municipal corporations, school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and



college-preparatory boarding schools to enter into public-private initiatives with a private party through a public-private agreement regarding public facilities

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB671** SCHOOL DRINKING WATER TESTS (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To require the Director of Environmental Protection to adopt rules establishing procedures and requirements governing annual testing of school drinking water for lead, to name this act the State Water Quality Act for Kids, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB680** SCHOOL BUS SEAT BELTS (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To require all passenger seats on school buses to be equipped with occupant restraining devices beginning on July 1, 2019, and to designate "Safe School Week."

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB682** HOPE FOR A SMILE DENTAL PROGRAM (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To establish the Hope for a Smile Program through which buses are operated to offer dental hygiene services to Ohio schoolchildren and to fund the Program through a combination of cigarette and tobacco tax receipts, donations, and Medicaid and insurance reimbursements

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB686** ABOLISH ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS-COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS (Rep. John Barnes, Jr.) To enact the "Student Transformative Academic Restoration Act" to abolish academic distress commissions and to instead require the creation of community learning centers for poor performing districts, to establish an office of grants and philanthropic gestures within the Department of Education, to create the State Business Intervention Fund, to create a teacher education advancement program, and to modify earmarked appropriations for academic distress commissions

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB691** PROPERTY LEASES-SPONSOR CHANGE (Rep. Catherine Ingram) To allow school district boards of education to terminate property leases with community schools when they change sponsors

**STATUS: Introduced**

**HB693** STATE CERTIFICATION-GUNS IN SCHOOLS (Rep. Ron Young) To require a state certification to carry a firearm into a school safety zone and to grant an income tax credit for school employees or contractors who have such certification

**STATUS: Introduced**

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## **SENATE**

**SB3** WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Sen. Bill Beagle, Sen. Troy Balderson) To designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) Passed by House, Vote 93-1; Senate concurs, Vote 32-0**

**SB5** INCREASING INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS (Sen. Jay Hottinger, Sen. John Eklund) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to college savings accounts and disability expense savings accounts to \$10,000 annually for each beneficiary, to create the Joint Committee on Ohio College Affordability, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0; Emergency clause, Vote 32-1**

**SB8** SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (Sen. Randy Gardner, Sen. Louis Terhar) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective March 23, 2018**

**SB9** AUGUST TAX HOLIDAY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a three-day sales tax "holiday" in August 2017 during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use taxes

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

**SB10** PRIMARY ELECTION REQUIREMENTS (Sen. Frank LaRose) To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**SB15** COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require community colleges, state community colleges, technical colleges, and university branches to comply with minority business enterprise set-aside requirements, and to require the Director of Administrative Services to establish guidelines for these entities, and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, to establish procurement goals for contracting with EDGE business enterprises

**STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**SB17** LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND ALLOCATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To increase monthly allocations to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.68% of the total tax revenue credited to the General Revenue Fund each month

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB22**INCORPORATING FEDERAL REVENUE CHANGES (Sen. Bob Peterson) To expressly incorporate changes in the Internal Revenue Code since February 14, 2016, into Ohio law

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

**SB34**SCHOOL YEARS (Sen. Gayle Manning) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB36**AGRICULTURAL COMPUTATION (Sen. Cliff Hite) To require that the computation of the capitalization rate for the purposes of determining CAUV of agricultural land be computed using a method that excludes appreciation and equity buildup and to stipulate that CAUV land used for a conservation practice or enrolled in a federal land retirement or conservation program for at least three years must be valued at the lowest of the values assigned on the basis of soil type

**STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0**

**SB39**COMMUNITY SCHOOL OPERATION (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding community school operator contracts, the operation of Internet- and computer-based community schools, and performance metrics for blended learning schools

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB54**SUMMER FOOD PROGRAMS (Sen. Edna Brown, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require school districts to allow approved summer food service program sponsors to use school facilities to provide food service for summer intervention services under certain conditions

**STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**SB72**PREVAILING WAGE LAW (Sen. Matt Huffman) To allow political subdivisions, special districts, and state institutions of higher education to elect to apply the Prevailing Wage Law to public improvement projects

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB79**STATE DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW SCHEDULE (Sen. Kris Jordan) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review

**STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 24-9**

**SB82**SCHOOL ABSENCES-PARENTAL NOTIFICATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To require a public school to place a telephone call within one hour of the start of the school day to a parent whose child is absent without legitimate excuse

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**SB85** OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CREATION (Sen. Matt Huffman) To eliminate the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program and Pilot Project Scholarship Program and to create the Opportunity Scholarship Program  
**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB88** SUBDIVISION COMMISSIONS-FISCAL EMERGENCY (Sen. Louis Terhar) To modify the composition and powers of the financial planning and supervision commission of a political subdivision that is in a state of fiscal emergency and to clarify the duties of that political subdivision  
**STATUS: Passed by Senate, Vote 33-0**

**SB97** REGIONAL STUDY COMMITTEE CREATION (Sen. Frank LaRose, Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances  
**STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**SB104** PROHIBIT SECLUSION USE-SCHOOLS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools  
**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB105** MONTH DESIGNATION-OHIO PRINCIPALS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To designate the month of October as "Ohio Principals Month"  
**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**SB111** SCHOOL ZONE SIGN LIGHTS (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require school zones to be indicated by signs equipped with flashing or other lights or that indicate the times during which the restrictive speed limit is enforced, and to make an appropriation  
**STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**SB123** PROPERTY TAX COMPLAINT PROCESS (Sen. William Coley) To limit the right to initiate most types of property tax complaints to the property owner and the county recorder of the county in which the property is located  
**STATUS: Senate Ways & Means Committee**

**SB124** COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY GRANTS (Sen. Sandra Williams) To qualify students in noncredit community college and career and technical programs for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding of academic credit for community colleges' career certification programs  
**STATUS: Senate Finance Higher Education Subcommittee**

**SB133** STUDENT DISCIPLINE-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR (Sen. Frank LaRose) To require the Education Management Information System to include information regarding persons at whom a student's violent behavior that resulted in discipline

was directed and to require the Department of Education to submit a one-time report to the General Assembly regarding that information

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB140** PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To create the Public-Private Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to develop, enhance, and promote educational programs to address regional workforce needs; to create the Sector Partnership Grant Program for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 to identify and provide grants to industry partnerships; to support programs that improve access to workforce training opportunities for students; to support economic development and revitalization programs; and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB149** ELECTION POLLING PLACES-SCHOOLS (Sen. Frank LaRose) Regarding the use of a school district building as a polling place for elections

**STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**SB151** SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ADJUSTMENTS (Sen. Cliff Hite) To permit, rather than require, the School Employees Retirement System to grant annual cost-of-living adjustments to retirement, disability, and survivor benefit recipients and to reduce the maximum amount of the adjustment

**STATUS: Senate Insurance & Financial Institutions Committee**

**SB172** HUNGER-FREE STUDENTS RIGHTS (Sen. Kenny Yuko) To establish the Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights Act to require schools to provide certain services to students who are eligible for free or reduced price meals

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB175** RECOVERED FUNDS-SCHOOL AUDIT (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school

**STATUS: Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee**

**SB191** ESTABLISH SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To establish the Breakfast After The Bell Program for public schools

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB196** AGGRAVATED BULLYING-OFFENSE CREATION (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To create the offense of aggravated bullying, a third-degree misdemeanor

**STATUS: Senate Judiciary Committee**

**SB197** SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (Sen. Sandra Williams, Sen. Edna Brown) To require a tiered disciplinary procedure for harassment, intimidation, or bullying in school; to require annual student instruction about preventing such

acts; and to create the offense of aggravated bullying as a third-degree misdemeanor

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB199** OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni, Sen. Cliff Hite) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Introduced**

**SB203** MUNICIPAL TAX RULE REINSTATEMENT (Sen. Matt Dolan) To reinstate the municipal income tax "throw-back rule" used in apportioning business income among municipalities

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB209** PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS-TIF (Sen. William Coley, Sen. John Eklund) To modify the conditions that determine the relative priority of property tax exemptions when a parcel subject to a tax increment financing arrangement concurrently qualifies for another exemption

**STATUS: Senate Ways & Means Committee**

**SB213** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDING PLAN (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To enhance economic and employment opportunities and improve local infrastructure in Ohio by providing additional assistance to workforce development and employment programs; establishing a revolving loan program for small businesses seeking to expand operations; extending job tax credits to smaller businesses; enabling expanded participation in public sector contracting by smaller companies; enhancing support for childcare centers; funding additional local infrastructure and public transit; authorizing tax incentives for hiring military veterans, for donating money to local programs assisting distressed communities, or for improving distressed property; exempting the homes of disabled veterans from property taxation; terminating the income tax deduction and reduced tax rate for business income; and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB216** PUBLIC SCHOOL DEREGULATION ACT (Sen. Matt Huffman) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Bill amended**

**SB225** OHIO BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni, Sen. John Eklund) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB226** SALES TAX HOLIDAY-SCHOOL SAFETY (Sen. Kevin Bacon) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use tax, to authorize a county school financing district property tax for school safety, security, and mental health services, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

**SB239** REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS (Sen. Matt Dolan) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments

**STATUS: (Passed by Senate) House State & Local Government Committee**

**SB240** REGARDING TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Sen. Peggy Lehner) With regard to teacher evaluations

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB241** ACCREDITED NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CATEGORY (Sen. Louis Terhar, Sen. Cecil Thomas) To establish a category of nonpublic schools called "accredited nonpublic schools" and to prescribe requirements and exemptions for such schools

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB246** STUDENT SAFETY ACT (Sen. Peggy Lehner, Sen. Gayle Manning) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions and expulsions of students in grades prekindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 32-0**

**SB258** AWARDING SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDS (Sen. Joe Schiavoni) To require the State Board of Education to establish criteria and procedures for the awarding of school safety funds to school districts and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB262** EATING DISORDER EDUCATION (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To require public schools annually to provide parents of students in any of grades five through twelve with educational information regarding eating disorders

**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB266** CAPITAL BUDGET (Sen. Scott Oelslager) To make capital appropriations and changes to the law governing capital projects and to make reappropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2020

**STATUS: Senate Finance Committee**

**SB276 EXPULSION OF STUDENTS** (Sen. Jay Hottinger) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for actions that endanger the health and safety of other students or school employees  
**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB287 K-12 HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS** (Sen. Vernon Sykes) To require the State Board of Education to develop and adopt health education standards for grades kindergarten through twelve and to require only venereal disease education standards and curriculum adopted by the State Board to be approved by concurrent resolution of the General Assembly  
**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB289 THREATS OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE** (Sen. Stephanie Kunze) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds  
**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB293 REDUCTION OF AGENCY REGULATIONS** (Sen. Bob Peterson, Sen. Robert McColley) To require agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions  
**STATUS: Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce Committee**

**SB294 PILOT PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS** (Sen. John Eklund, Sen. Peggy Lehner) To increase the maximum amount that may be awarded to students under the Pilot Project (Cleveland) Scholarship Program  
**STATUS: Senate Education Committee**

**SB302 HEALTH AND EQUITY INITIATIVE** (Sen. Charleta Tavares) To create the Health and Equity in All Policies Initiative and the Health and Equity Interagency Team  
**STATUS: Introduced**

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**Joe Weitz**

*Policy & Communications Coordinator*

**ESC of Central Ohio**

p: 614.753.4646

a: 2080 Citygate Drive, Columbus, OH 43219

w: [www.escco.org](http://www.escco.org) e: [joseph.weitz@escco.org](mailto:joseph.weitz@escco.org)



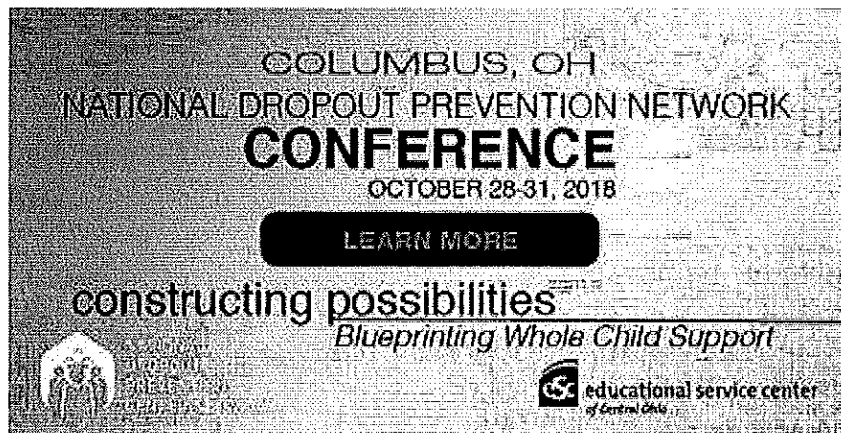


**From:** Joseph Weitz

**Sent:** Friday, May 25, 2018 7:18 AM

**Subject:** Weekly Wrap 5/25/18 - A service of the ESC of Central Ohio - Central Ohio Growth; Technology First Initiative; Credential Transparency; Condition of Education 2018

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**Week of May 25, 2018**

Please let Joe know if you have questions, requests, or would like to be added to the distribution list. Thank you.

## **JUMP TO A SECTION**

### **FEATURED ITEMS**

#### **OHIO**

**Central Ohio Schools**

**Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education**

**Joint Education Oversight Committee**

**Education & Public Policy**

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#### **NATIONAL/WORLD**

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**Digital Convergence**

Personalized Learning Frameworks  
Extended Learning Opportunities  
School Safety & Discipline  
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Social-Emotional Learning  
Career & Technical Education  
Postsecondary & Workforce Development  
Curriculum  
STEM/STEAM  
Data

#### OHIO LEGISLATION UPDATE

House Bills

Senate Bills

## FEATURED ITEMS

**CENTRAL OHIO GROWTH** – *The U.S. Census Bureau released new population estimates for cities, villages and townships. Columbus was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the country and 1<sup>st</sup> in the Midwest for largest numeric population increase between July 1, 2016 and July 1, 2017. In Ohio, seven of the state's fastest-growing cities are in Franklin County or an adjoining county, and five of them are mostly within Franklin County.*

#### Census Bureau Reveals Fastest Growing Large Cities – U.S. Census Bureau

- Eight of the 15 cities or towns with the largest population gains were located in the South in 2017, with three of the top five in Texas, according to new population estimates released today by the U.S. Census Bureau
- Columbus is 8<sup>th</sup> overall and first in the Midwest

#### Delaware County Growth Heading North – Columbus Dispatch

- As homes and businesses continue their surge into southern Delaware County, plans for growth are creeping into the more northern townships

#### Columbus Retains Position as 14<sup>th</sup>-Largest City, For Now – Columbus Dispatch

- In Ohio, the numbers also show continued growth for central Ohio communities. Seven of the state's fastest-growing cities are in Franklin County or an adjoining county, and five of them are mostly within Franklin County

## **GOV. KASICH SIGNS TECHNOLOGY FIRST EXECUTIVE ORDER**

– *Governor John Kasich signed an executive order launching the "Technology First" initiative. The initiative is the product of efforts launched in the*

*Governor's last budget that called upon the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities to explore the use of technology such as apps, cell phones, smart pads, and smart speakers to augment the supports delivered by caregivers. The executive order also will create a new council to make recommendations, set benchmarks and foster partnerships that will help to expand the use of supportive technology for Ohioans with developmental disabilities.*

**Kasich Signs Executive Order to Put New Technologies to Work for Ohioans with Developmental Disabilities – Governor of Ohio**

- Ohioans with developmental disabilities will now have the opportunity to improve their lives with the help of innovative supportive technologies thanks to the new "Technology First" initiative launched today by an executive order signed by Gov. John R. Kasich

**Robot Joins Gov. John Kasich to Sign Executive Order Prioritizing Technology for People with Disabilities – Cleveland Plain Dealer**

- Smart wheelchairs, speakers that can turn on lights and other technology will be considered as part of care plans for Ohioans with developmental disabilities under an executive order signed Thursday by Gov. John Kasich

**OHIO JOINS CREDENTIAL TRANSPARENCY PROJECT –**

*Credential Engine announced a new partnership with Ohio, led by the Ohio Department of Higher Education, to bring credential transparency, develop credential literacy, improve alignment between credential offerings and outcomes, and inform state practices, programs, and policies by harnessing data that helps students, workers, and citizens make strategic credentialing decisions. Credential Engine is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating credential transparency, revealing the credential marketplace, increasing credential literacy, and empowering everyone to make more informed decisions about credentials and their value*

**Credential Engine Partners with Kansas, Michigan, and Ohio to Increase Credential Transparency – ODHE**

- Credential Engine announced today new partnerships with three states to bring credential transparency, develop credential literacy, improve alignment between credential offerings and outcomes, and inform state practices, programs, and policies by harnessing data that helps students, workers, and citizens make strategic credentialing decisions

**Ohio Joins Multi-State Partnership Promoting Credential Transparency – Hannah**

- Ohio, along with Kansas and Michigan, has been chosen to join a new partnership centered on promoting transparency in occupational credentials, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) announced

**Success Network – ESC of Central Ohio**

- We aim to empower educational institutions, businesses, communities and leaders to create and provide accessibility for our future generations to succeed

**FEDS RELEASE CONDITION OF EDUCATION 2018** - *The U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics released its annual The Condition of Education report. The report includes data on key education indicators from prekindergarten through postsecondary, as well as labor force outcomes and international comparisons.*

**The Condition of Education 2018 – USDOE/IES/NCES**

- This website contains key indicators on the condition of education in the United States at all levels, from prekindergarten through postsecondary, as well as labor force outcomes and international comparisons. The indicators summarize important developments and trends using the latest statistics, which are updated throughout the year as new data become available. In addition, this website has Spotlight indicators that provide more in-depth analyses on selected topics. The Condition of Education is a congressionally mandated report that is provided to Congress each year

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# OHIO

## ***Central Ohio Schools***

**FutureReady Back with New Leader and Mission Focused on Birth to Age 5 – Columbus Dispatch**

- After about a year on hiatus, a public-private agency, created to bolster education in Columbus by helping its children, is back in operation

**Delaware County Growth Heading North – Columbus Dispatch**

- As homes and businesses continue their surge into southern Delaware County, plans for growth are creeping into the more northern townships

**Columbus Retains Position as 14<sup>th</sup>-Largest City, For Now – Columbus Dispatch**

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- Columbus is 8<sup>th</sup> overall and first in the Midwest

## **BEXLEY CITY SCHOOLS**

### **Pickerington, Bexley, Gahanna-Jefferson District OK Union Contracts – Columbus Dispatch**

- Within the past week, two local school districts, Pickerington and Bexley, have reached new agreements with their teachers unions, and a third, Gahanna-Jefferson, has amended its contracts with teachers and bus drivers for next year

## **CHILLICOTHE CITY SCHOOLS**

### **After Investigation, Chillicothe Board Member Jeff Hartmus Cleared of Residency Questions – Chillicothe Gazette**

- An investigation into a residency complaint of a Chillicothe City Schools board member determined he does live in the city

### **Chillicothe Board Acts to Encourage Some to Stay, Others to Go – Chillicothe Gazette**

- Chillicothe City Schools' administrators will get a boost to their retirement coffers while longtime employees will be incentivized to retire next year after recent actions by the school board

## **COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS**

### **Columbus School Board Hires Taft Firm as Counsel for New Superintendent Search – Columbus Dispatch**

- The Columbus Board of Education took another step toward resuming its new superintendent search Tuesday evening, signing a contract with an independent outside legal counsel and agreeing to a framework for hiring a new search firm

## **DUBLIN CITY SCHOOLS**

### **Continued Success for Class of 2018 a Good Bet – This Week From the Superintendent's Desk**

- Todd Hoadley, superintendent of the Dublin City Schools, writes that the district's class of 2018 has almost 1,200 members who will participate in commencement ceremonies this weekend in the Schottenstein Center on the campus of The Ohio State University

## **FAIRBANKS LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**Fairbanks Adjusts Policy Regarding College Credit Courses -- Marysville Journal-Tribune**

- The Fairbanks Board of Education has a new policy on College Credit Plus (CCP) programs for the school district

**GAHANNA-JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Pickerington, Bexley, Gahanna-Jefferson District OK Union Contracts -- Columbus Dispatch**

- Within the past week, two local school districts, Pickerington and Bexley, have reached new agreements with their teachers unions, and a third, Gahanna-Jefferson, has amended its contracts with teachers and bus drivers for next year

**Gahanna Teachers, Drivers OK One-Year Contracts -- This Week**

- Collective-bargaining agreements were approved by the Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education on May 17

**Principal Dodd Leaving Gahanna Lincoln for Mason -- This Week**

- The Gahanna-Jefferson schools announced today, May 23, that Lincoln High School principal Bobby Dodd is resigning to take a position as principal of a large high school near Cincinnati

**GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS**

**Group's Verdict on Grandview Heights School Facilities Plan Coming Soon -- This Week**

- The Grandview Heights City School District's financial advisory committee will present its initial findings May 29 on the funding, phasing and scope of a proposed facilities plan for the district

**NEW ALBANY-PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**Summer Repairs Exemplify Fiscal Progress, Sustainability -- This Week Eagle Eye on Education**

- Michael Sawyers, superintendent of the New Albany-Plain Local Schools, writes that they will have a short summer window to make necessary repairs and replacements on the New Albany-Plain Local School District campus in anticipation of the first day of school Aug. 16

**OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOLS**

**Expansion Mulled for Elementary School Trio -- This Week**

- The Olentangy Local School District is running out of room for its youngest students -- and the school board could vote as soon as next month to spend millions on expanding existing elementary schools

#### **OLSD in Need of Additional Classrooms – Delaware Gazette**

- With 15 elementary schools already in the Olentangy Local School District, it appears that number will grow larger in the near future. The OLSD Board of Education met last week to discuss, among other things, the increasingly pressing need for more elementary classroom space

#### **Olentangy Handbook Changes Clarify Penalties for Bullying – This Week**

- The Olentangy Local School District is beefing up its bullying and harassment policies in response to student complaints

### **TOLLES CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER**

#### **Tolles Teaching Real World Skills – Marysville Journal-Tribune**

- The seniors of Tolles Career & Technical Center learned important life skills at the school's Real World Institute conference May 16

#### **Getting Practical at Tolles' Real World Institute – Columbus Messenger**

- Institute sessions ran the gamut from personal finance to laundry, providing seniors with information helpful to their transition from the classroom to the "real world"

### **WESTERVILLE CITY SCHOOLS**

#### **Marshall to Manage District Finances as Treasurer – This Week**

- The district's school board approved legislation May 21 to hire Nicole Marshall, treasurer of Fairborn City School District, as treasurer effective July 1

#### **Propane Helps Westerville's Buses Run Cleaner, Cheaper – This Week**

- The Westerville City School District has received a grant to purchase 13 buses that run on alternative fuel

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### ***Ohio Department of Education/State Board of Education***

#### **State Superintendent Presents on Philosophy behind School Improvement to JEOC – Hannah**

- Giving schools the tools and framework to create their own success will always been more valuable than attempting to do it for them, Superintendent

of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria told the Joint Education Oversight Committee (JEOC)

**ODE Awards \$33 Million in Striving Readers Grants – ODE**

- More than \$33 million was awarded today by the Ohio Department of Education to 46 school districts and consortiums of districts to improve the language and literacy development of our state's children. The list of grant awardees is available [here](#)

**Dozens of Ohio Schools Split \$33M in Grants to Aid Literacy – AP/Kansas City Star**

- Dozens of Ohio school districts and consortiums of districts will split \$33 million in federal grant money to improve literacy development

**ODE Recognizes New Purple Star Schools – ODE**

- State Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria announced 33 Ohio schools that received the Purple Star designation for their commitment to serving military-connected students and families

**School-Based Healthcare Support Toolkit Offers Resources to Support School and Care Provider Partnerships – ODE**

- Ohio launched the new School-Based Health Care Toolkit, a set of resources for schools and communities as they work together to address common health issues and keep students in class and learning

**Annual Safety Plan Certification Reminder – ODE**

- Schools must annually certify to the Ohio Department of Education that their safety plan documents are current and accurate. School and district administrators with compliant school safety plans, from 2017 and earlier, have until July 1 of each year to complete this annual review

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***Joint Education Oversight Committee***

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**School Improvement – ODE**

- State Superintendent Paolo DeMaria's presentation to JEOC



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## ***Ohio Education & Public Policy***

### **Election 2018 and ECOT: A Primer on the Scandal-Ridden Online Charter School and Why It Matters – Cincinnati Enquirer**

- The Enquirer catches you up on the details of the beleaguered school and its political implications this November

### **Bill to Ease Reporting on Minorities for Ohio Charters, Other Small Schools – Columbus Dispatch**

- Many of Ohio's smaller charter schools, and even a few traditional public schools, would not have to report on academic performance by small groups of students including racial minorities if a Senate-passed bill also gets through the House

### **House Committee Debates K-12 Deregulation, Report Card Overhaul – Hannah**

- Two bills to modify state report cards, teacher evaluations and other education reforms enacted in the past several years came in for debate Tuesday in the House Education Committee

### **House Panel Amends Deregulation Bill; Distress Commission Moratorium Splits GOP – Hannah**

- With lawmakers wanting more information and a cancelled floor session sapping urgency, the House Education Committee backed off plans Wednesday to vote on a broad school deregulation measure, though members did agree to several changes

### **Ohio School Deregulation Bill Gets Dozen Amendments, But No Vote – Dayton Daily News**

- Wednesday's expected Ohio House vote on a bill supporters claim will reduce red-tape for local schools did not happen, as the House session was canceled amid Republicans' continuing struggle to choose a new Speaker of the House

### **Prospect of Democratic Measure Passing Leads to Sudden Adjournment by GOP Chair – Columbus Dispatch**

- A wide-ranging educational policy bill ran into a sudden roadblock when minority Democrats were on the verge of getting an amendment approved that would end, for now, possible state takeover of low-performing districts

### **Kasich Support of A-F Grades Stalls Attempts to Kill or Delay Them for Schools, Districts – Cleveland Plain Dealer**

- Gov. John Kasich's support of giving schools and school districts A-F grades has stalled progress on two attempts to delay some grades or to overhaul state report cards entirely

#### **New Recommendations, Legislation Restart Conversation about School Bus Seat Belts – Columbus Dispatch**

- For the first time, the NTSB recommended all new large school buses be equipped with lap and shoulder belts. Additionally, it recommended new buses have automatic emergency braking and electronic stability control

#### **Schuring Cancels Sessions amid Uncertain Speaker Vote, Rosenberger FBI Raid; Smith Wants Vote Now – Hannah**

- House Speaker Pro Tempore Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) said he cancelled this week's voting sessions because he didn't have "absolute assurances" that 50 Republicans would support Rep. Ryan Smith's (R-Gallipolis) speaker bid

#### **Obhof Waves Off House Worries, Leads Senate through Unanimous Voting Session – Hannah**

- Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) led his chamber through a slate of legislation in unanimous fashion Wednesday. In comments following session, he sought to distance members from the House leadership crisis

#### **Kunze Reintroduces Bill to Deal with Students Who Make Threats – Hannah**

- Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) commented, following sponsor testimony by Sen. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) on her SB289 before the Senate Education Committee Wednesday, that it sounds like legislation he once sponsored premised on the idea that "no student has the right to interfere with another student's right to learn"

#### **Kasich Signs Executive Order to Put Focus on Technology for Disabled Ohioans – Hannah**

- Ohioans with disabilities who receive help from state programs will have a better chance at being matched up with technology to improve their quality of life under an executive order signed by Gov. John Kasich

#### **Kasich Signs Executive Order to Put New Technologies to Work for Ohioans with Developmental Disabilities – Governor of Ohio**

- Ohioans with developmental disabilities will now have the opportunity to improve their lives with the help of innovative supportive technologies thanks to the new "Technology First" initiative launched today by an executive order signed by Gov. John R. Kasich

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- Smart wheelchairs, speakers that can turn on lights and other technology will be considered as part of care plans for Ohioans with developmental disabilities under an executive order signed Thursday by Gov. John Kasich

#### **Drug Education Panel Works to Finalize How-To Report – Hannah**

- The Joint Study Committee on Drug Use Prevention Education, a creation of legislative leaders and Attorney General Mike DeWine, reviewed Thursday a draft of its 2018 report, which will follow up on last year's report on key prevention strategies with suggestions for how schools can put those strategies into action

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### ***Ohio Postsecondary & Workforce Development***

#### **Credential Engine Partners with Kansas, Michigan, and Ohio to Increase Credential Transparency – ODHE**

- Credential Engine announced today new partnerships with three states to bring credential transparency, develop credential literacy, improve alignment between credential offerings and outcomes, and inform state practices, programs, and policies by harnessing data that helps students, workers, and citizens make strategic credentialing decisions

#### **Ohio Joins Multi-State Partnership Promoting Credential Transparency – Hannah**

- Ohio, along with Kansas and Michigan, has been chosen to join a new partnership centered on promoting transparency in occupational credentials, the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) announced

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## **NATIONAL/WORLD**

### ***Federal & US Department of Education***

#### **DeVos Defends Civil Rights Record, Backs Better Pay for 'Great Teachers' at House Hearing – EdWeek**

- House Democrats and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos sparred over civil rights, the Every Student Succeeds Act, and teachers' salaries at a hearing Tuesday, but lawmakers from both parties largely avoided

controversial questions about school safety in the aftermath of a Texas high school shooting last week that left 10 students and staff dead

**Prepared Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos to the House Education and the Workforce Committee - USDOE**

**Trump Panel Slammed on Slow Pace of School Safety Work – EdWeek**

- Nearly three months—and six school shootings—since President Donald Trump created a commission to seek solutions to school violence, the Cabinet-level panel is being slammed for what critics see as its slack pace, lack of transparency, and limited representation

**The Condition of Education 2018 – USDOE/IES/NCES**

- This website contains key indicators on the condition of education in the United States at all levels, from prekindergarten through postsecondary, as well as labor force outcomes and international comparisons. The indicators summarize important developments and trends using the latest statistics, which are updated throughout the year as new data become available. In addition, this website has Spotlight indicators that provide more in-depth analyses on selected topics. The Condition of Education is a congressionally mandated report that is provided to Congress each year

**Trump Ed. Dept. Announces New Career and Technical Education Grants – Edweek**

- States: Got an idea for supporting the transition for high school Career and Technical Education students into postsecondary education and the workforce? The U.S. Department of Education wants to hear from you

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***Education Policy & Finance***

**Evidence Building Opportunities under ESSA: How States Can and Should Generate Evidence to Drive Better Outcomes for Students – Chiefs for Change/Results for America**

- This report builds on the work Chiefs for Change has done to identify ways to leverage the evidence provisions in ESSA and use federal funds to support this approach. Specifically, the report offers guidance for state education agencies (SEAs) as they both use and build evidence to improve outcomes

**Meaningful Engagement Under ESSA — Issue 2: A Handbook for Local Leaders on School Improvement – Opportunity Institute/CCSSO**

- This new resource offers local leaders more detail about different school improvement strategies, as well as assessing need and aligning resources

with chosen priorities — and how to do so in collaboration with community stakeholder

#### **States Are Raising the Bar for Their Students, New Report Shows, but Higher Standards Are Not Driving Higher Test Scores – The 74**

- States are setting higher expectations for student academic performance, according to a new report in the journal Education Next. The authors find that proficiency standards on state tests have grown more stringent over the past few years, defying worries that they would be dumbed down as the federal government took a more detached approach to school accountability. But higher standards don't seem to have yielded higher performance

#### **Have States Maintained High Expectations for Student Performance? – Education Next**

- So, has the starting gun been fired on a race to the bottom? Have the bars for reaching academic proficiency fallen as many states have loosened their commitment to Common Core? And, is there any evidence that the states that have raised their proficiency bars since 2009 have seen greater growth in student learning? In a nutshell, the answers to these three questions are no, no, and, so far, none

#### **Four-Day Weeks Bring Smiles in Rural Schools. But Will They Work in Big Cities? – NBC News**

- Increasingly, school districts across the country are banking on the short week to save money and alleviate the worsening teacher shortage. Three-day weekends are a nice recruiting tool

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### ***Standards & Assessments***

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#### **U.S. Ed. Dept. Warns Districts to Step Up Student Privacy Protections for SAT, ACT – EdWeek**

- School districts that administer the SAT or ACT to all students are getting a bracing warning from the U.S. Department of Education: They must take steps to protect students' personal information, or risk running afoul of federal privacy laws

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### ***Digital Convergence***

#### **How Districts Can Incorporate Open Educational Resources – EdWeek**

- As students and teachers gain increased access to digital tools and interactive resources in the classroom, more schools have started using open educational resources

#### **Data-Driven Instruction: Top Trend in K-12 Use of Ed-Tech, Teachers Say – EdWeek**

- Educators' use of data to make decisions about instruction and intervention is rising dramatically in U.S. schools, according to an online survey of 1,516 teachers released today by Kahoot!

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### ***Personalized Learning Frameworks***

#### **How One New Hampshire District is Leveraging Success Skills in a Competency-Based System – CompetencyWorks**

- CompetencyWorks offers an in-depth look at how schools in New Hampshire are building success skills

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### ***Extended Learning Opportunities***

#### **The Summer After Kindergarten: Children's Experiences by Socioeconomic Characteristics – USDOE/IES/NCES**

- This Statistics in Brief describes students' summer nonparental care arrangements, program attendance (e.g., at summer camps or summer

school), participation in activities with family members in a typical week, and places visited with family members. Participation in summer activities is compared by two socioeconomic characteristics—household poverty status and parents' highest level of education—utilizing data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 2010–11 (ECLS-K:2011)

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## ***School Safety & Discipline***

### **School Shootings This Year: How Many and Where – EdWeek**

- School shootings—terrifying to students, educators, parents, and communities—always reignite polarizing debates about gun rights and school safety. To bring context to these debates, Education Week journalists will track shootings on K-12 school property this year that result in firearm-related injuries or deaths

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## ***Mental Health & Wellness***

### **Study: Suicide Rates Higher among Black Kids under 13 – Columbus Dispatch**

- Suicide rates among children under the age of 13 are twice as high for black children as their white counterparts, according to a new study by Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus

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## ***Social-Emotional Learning***

### **Putting the SEL into PBL – eSchool News**

- Project-based learning (PBL) and social emotional learning (SEL) are a perfect match; here's why

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## ***Career & Technical Education***

### **Trump Ed. Dept. Announces New Career and Technical Education Grants – Edweek**

- States: Got an idea for supporting the transition for high school Career and Technical Education students into postsecondary education and the workforce? The U.S. Department of Education wants to hear from you

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## ***Postsecondary & Workforce Development***

### **Report on Apprenticeships and Community Colleges – Inside Higher Ed**

- A new report from the American Enterprise Institute explores how community colleges could contribute to expanding apprenticeship opportunities, by playing a "role that would contribute to resolving the current mismatch between what postsecondary institutions produce and what employers need"

### **Current Term Enrollment Estimates: Spring 2018 – National Student Clearinghouse Research Center**

- In spring 2018, overall postsecondary enrollments decreased 1.3 percent from the previous spring

### **The Bad First Job's Lingering Impact – Inside Higher Ed**

- New report finds that bachelor's degree recipients whose first job does not require degree are more likely to remain "underemployed" five years later -- and women fare worse than men

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## ***Curriculum***

### **How Districts Can Incorporate Open Educational Resources – EdWeek**

- As students and teachers gain increased access to digital tools and interactive resources in the classroom, more schools have started using open educational resources

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## ***STEM/STEAM***

### **STEM Education – EdWeek Special Report**

- Government agencies, business groups, and policymakers continue to prioritize support for the the STEM fields. But K-12 educators note that these fields present many places where kids can get stuck—from weak instruction in the early grades to traditional calculus classes in high school and college. Even the end goal, improved employment outcomes, remains murky. In this



special report, Education Week takes a closer look at these STEM gateways, searching out ones that offer new avenues—like hands-on preparation for advanced manufacturing—and the efforts to break down longstanding barriers, like remedial algebra

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## ***Data***

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# **Ohio Legislation Update**

**(Recent bill action in RED. Signed into law by Governor in GREEN.)**

## ***HOUSE***

**HB3** DATAOHIO BOARD CREATION (Rep. Mike Duffey, Rep. Christina Hagan) To create the DataOhio Board, to specify requirements for posting public records online, to require the Auditor of State to adopt rules regarding a uniform accounting system for public offices, to establish an online catalog of public data at

data.Ohio.gov, to establish the Local Government Information Exchange Grant Program, and to make appropriations

**STATUS: House Finance Committee – Reported out**

**HB8** PUBLIC RECORDS-MINORS (Rep. Steve Hambley, Rep. Jeffrey Rezabek) To exempt from the Public Records Law certain information concerning a minor that is included in a record related to a traffic accident involving a school vehicle in which the minor was an occupant at the time of the accident

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Local Government, Public Safety & Veterans Affairs Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 29-0**

**HB14** AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION (Rep. Kathleen Clyde) To require that eligible persons in certain government and school databases be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically unless those persons decline and to expand how a voter may register or update their registration through the online voter registration system

**STATUS: House Government Accountability & Oversight Committee**

**HB21** COMMUNITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION (Rep. Steve Hambley) Regarding verification of community school enrollments

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee – Reported out as amended; Passed by Senate, Vote 31-0**

**HB24** VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS-TAX EXEMPTION (Rep. Timothy Ginter) - To modify the existing tax exemption for veterans organizations' property, to make appropriations and otherwise provide authorization and conditions for the operation of state programs, and to declare an emergency

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective immediately**

**HB37** SCHOOL SAFETY-STRUCTURES (Rep. Steve Arndt) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee – Substitute bill accepted**

**HB40** GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE DATABASE (Rep. Jonathan Dever, Rep. Dave Greenspan) To require the Treasurer of State to establish the Ohio State Government Expenditure Database

**Status: House State & Local Government Committee**

**HB47** STUDENTS IN MILITARY (Rep. John Boccieri) To enact the "Students to Soldiers Support Act (S3A)" regarding the participation of students who are serving in the uniformed services in extracurricular activities at public and nonpublic schools and public and private colleges

**STATUS: House Education & Career Readiness Committee**

**HB49**OPERATING BUDGET (Rep. Ryan Smith) Creates FY 2018-2019 main operating budget

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective July 1, 2017**

**HB51**DEPARTMENT REVIEW SCHEDULE (Rep. Keith Faber) To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet, and to require that Auditor of State performance audits be scheduled to coincide with the periodic review

**STATUS: House State & Local Government Committee – Reported out as amended**

**HB53**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES-MEMBER DUES (Rep. John Becker) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation

**STATUS: House Finance Committee**

**HB58**CURSIVE HANDWRITING INSTRUCTION (Rep. Andrew Brenner, Rep. Marilyn Slaby) To require instruction in cursive handwriting

**STATUS: House Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee**

**HB66**UNDERGRAD MISSION STUDY COMMITTEE (Rep. Ron Young) To require permanently tenured state university or college faculty members to teach at least three credit hours of undergraduate courses per semester

**STATUS: (Passed by House) Senate Education Committee**

**HB69**LEVY REVENUE REIMBURSEMENT (Rep. Bob Cupp) To require reimbursement of certain township fire and emergency medical service levy revenue forgone because of the creation of a municipal tax increment financing district

**STATUS: Signed by Governor – Effective March 23, 2018**

**HB74**INCREASE COLLEGE TAX DEDUCTION (Rep. Stephen Huffman, Rep. Theresa Gavarone) To increase the maximum income tax deduction for contributions to the state's 529 college savings program from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per beneficiary per year

**STATUS: House Ways & Means Committee**

**HB77**SICK-CHILD CARE LICENSURE (Rep. Wes Retherford) To provide for the licensure of sick-child care centers

**STATUS: House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor Committee**